

GAME PREVIEW

Purdue Boilermakers

BASKETBALL

Men's & Women's Previews

NU VOLLEYBALL

Mary Pollmiller

THE ORIGINAL MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO NEBRASKA ATHLETICS

# HUSKERS

ILLUSTRATED

## PERFORMING WITH A PURPOSE

Abdullah breaks Roy Helu Jr.'s single-game  
all-purpose record with 341 total yards



Nov. 1, 2014  
VOLUME 34 | NO. 13 |  
\$4.95



Activate Your **FREE**  
**FULL ACCESS**  
**ACCOUNT TODAY!**  
Take The Huskers With You!



# IN THE PAST YEAR, THESE ISSUES OF *HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED* WERE MAILED TO YOU...



## BUT DID YOU ALSO READ THESE DIGITAL *HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED* EXPRESS EDITIONS?



Check out the issues between the issues at [magazine.huskersillustrated.com](http://magazine.huskersillustrated.com)! Digital only Express Editions are Great for Laptops and Tablets. Free to *Huskers Illustrated* Magazine Subscribers



THE ORIGINAL MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO NEBRASKA ATHLETICS

# HUSKERS

## ILLUSTRATED

Huskers Illustrated is published by Landmark Community Newspapers, 2623 Regency Rd., Lexington, KY 40503. Periodicals postage paid at Lexington, KY and additional mailing offices.

Editor, General Manager: **DARREN IVY**  
darrenivy@huskersillustrated.com

Photographer: **JOE MIXAN**

Photographer: **JIM RASH**

Photographer: **MITCH OTTO**

Recruiting Writer: **MIKE SCHAEFER**

Beat Writer: **MICHAEL BRUNTZ**

Beat Writer: **LANNY HOLSTEIN**

Contributing Writer: **DOUG GRIFFITHS**

Contributing Writer: **BRIAN ROSENTHAL**

Contributing Writer: **BOB HAMAR**

Contributing Writer: **TERRY DOUGLASS**

### ADVERTISING

Tim Francis (800) 524-9527 Ext. 111  
or Darren Ivy (402) 762-5352

NATIONAL DISTRIBUTOR: G Associates, Inc.

**SUBSCRIPTION QUESTIONS:** Go to [magazine.huskersillustrated.com](http://magazine.huskersillustrated.com)

or e-mail to [support@huskersillustrated.com](mailto:support@huskersillustrated.com)

or call 1-800-524-9527.

## MORE THAN A MAGAZINE

### TO SUBSCRIBE:

**MAGAZINE.HUSKERSILLUSTRATED.COM**

**OR CALL: 800-524-9527**



### PRINT | Huskers Illustrated Magazine

Huskers Illustrated Magazine, the original publication dedicated to Nebraska athletics, is in its 33rd year of publication with the best Husker coverage, including our annual football yearbook (pictured).

To Subscribe: [magazine.huskersillustrated.com](http://magazine.huskersillustrated.com)

### E-EDITION | [Magazine.huskersillustrated.com](http://Magazine.huskersillustrated.com)

Our new e-edition of the magazine can be viewed on your computer or iPad. Perfect for the subscriber who doesn't want to wait for the mail! Current subscribers register for free access at [Magazine.huskersillustrated.com](http://Magazine.huskersillustrated.com). No credit card required.

### EXPRESS | [Magazine.huskersillustrated.com](http://Magazine.huskersillustrated.com)

Each release of Huskers Illustrated Express, an exclusive online-only bonus to your subscription, will provide up-to-the-minute news, features and commentary about Nebraska's upcoming football or basketball games. Current subscribers register for free access at [Magazine.huskersillustrated.com](http://Magazine.huskersillustrated.com). No credit card required.

### INTERNET | [HuskersIllustrated.com](http://HuskersIllustrated.com)

Follow Nebraska 24 hours a day at [huskersillustrated.com](http://huskersillustrated.com) and with our new Internet partner 247Sports.com. Get breaking



news, game reports, recruit databases, recruit rankings, video highlights and photo galleries. It's FREE message board, The Bone Yard, is quickly setting a new standard for forums in college sports. \$9.95 per month. 7-day free trial available.

### SOCIAL MEDIA | Facebook & Twitter

Join the thousands of other Husker fans that follow Huskers Illustrated online. Follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/huskersillustratedfan](http://facebook.com/huskersillustratedfan) or on twitter at [twitter.com/hillustrated](http://twitter.com/hillustrated).



**The next Huskers Illustrated edition, recapping the Purdue game and previewing the Wisconsin game, will mail on Monday, Nov. 3.**

*Huskers Illustrated (USPS 658-450, ISSN 0279-3474) is published monthly January, February, March and December, Bi-monthly March/April and June/July/August and three times per month during October and weekly in September and November by Landmark Publications, LLC dba Huskers Illustrated, 601 Taylorsville Rd Shelbyville, KY 40065. Periodicals Postage Paid at Shelbyville, KY and at additional mailing offices. Subscriptions: \$62.95 per year. Postmaster: Send address changes to Huskers Illustrated, 601 Taylorsville Rd. Shelbyville, KY 40065.*

# Contents

NOVEMBER 1, 2014 \* VOLUME 34 \* NO. 13

## COLUMNS

### 4

## FROM THE EDITOR

BY **DARREN IVY**

Husker fans should take advantage of chance to watch this year's senior class in person before they graduate.

### 22

## RECRUITING NOTEBOOK

BY **MICHAEL SCHAEFER**

Nebraska hopes to land California wide receiver Tony Brown following his Nov. 1 visit for the Purdue game.

### 23

## STATE OF THE HUSKERS

BY **MICHAEL BRUNTZ**

Ameer Abdullah can't sing very well according to teammate Tommy Armstrong Jr., but that is about only thing he doesn't thrive in.

## FEATURE

### 14-21

## TWO-MINUTE DRILL

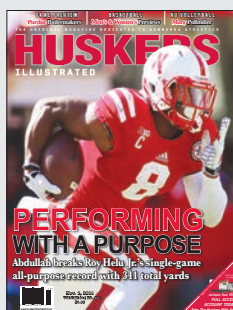
BY **LANNY HOLSTEIN & DARREN IVY**

Nebraska's second string offensive line trio of Chongo Kondolo, Ryne Reeves and Givens Price provided a lift against Northwestern.

### 2014 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME	TV/SCORE
AUG. 30	FLORIDA ATLANTIC	MEMORIAL STADIUM	2:30P.M.	W, 55-7
SEPT. 6	MCNEESE STATE	MEMORIAL STADIUM	11:00 A.M.	W, 31-24
SEPT. 13	@FRESNO STATE	FRESNO, CALIF.	9:30P.M.	W, 55-19
SEPT. 20	MIAMI	MEMORIAL STADIUM	7:00 P.M.	W, 41-31
SEPT. 27	ILLINOIS	MEMORIAL STADIUM	8:00P.M.	W, 45-14
OCT. 4	@MICHIGAN STATE	EAST LANSING, MICH.	7:00P.M.	L, 27-22
OCT. 18	@NORTHWESTERN	EVANSTON, ILL.	6:30P.M.	W, 38-17
OCT. 25	RUTGERS	MEMORIAL STADIUM	11A.M.	W, 42-24
NOV. 1	PURDUE	MEMORIAL STADIUM	2:30P.M.	ABC
NOV. 15	@WISCONSIN	MADISON, WIS.	TBA	TBD
NOV. 22	MINNESOTA	MEMORIAL STADIUM	TBA	TBD
NOV. 28	@IOWA	IOWA CITY, IA	TBA	TBD
DEC. 6	@BIG TEN TITLE GAME	INDIANAPOLIS, IND.	7P.M.	FOX

ALL GAMES ARE CST



## ON THE COVER

Senior Ameer Abdullah takes the ball on his 76-yard kick off return in the third quarter. It was one of four plays Abdullah had against Rutgers that totaled 48 or more yards. He finished with a school-record 341 all-purpose yards, including 225 on the ground, and added three more rushing touchdowns to his totals.

PHOTO BY JOE MIXAN/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED



## AMEER ABDULLAH WORTH THE PRICE OF ADMISSION SENIOR RUNNING BACK CONTINUES TO AMAZE GAME AFTER GAME

**IF YOU ARE A HUSKER FAN WHO HAS NOT HAD A CHANCE TO WATCH AMEER ABDULLAH IN PERSON, YOU HAVE JUST TWO MORE CHANCES TO DO SO AT MEMORIAL STADIUM.**

That's right, it doesn't seem possible that No. 8's career is winding down after four years, but this week's Purdue game and the Nov. 22 contest with Minnesota are the last two times he will come out of the Tunnel Walk and showcase his talents on Tom Osborne Field.

Margie Clang of Colorado Springs, Colo. is one person who will be in attendance at this week's Purdue game thanks to a fan giveaway package through the City of Lincoln Parking Services and *Huskers Illustrated*.

Clang said she has waited 50 years to attend her first Husker game in person and recently had been disappointed when her family didn't get her tickets to a game as a birthday gift for her 50th birthday. Then came the word that she had won the fan experience.

"Thank you so much," the giddy Clang said.

She is really excited to see Abdullah, especially after his record-breaking performance against Rutgers in which he recorded multiple touchdowns for the fifth-consecutive game and added a couple more highlight reel plays.

His 49-yard run on his first carry of the second half gave him 201 yards for the game.

That went along with 53-yard and 48-yard touchdown runs in the first half. Additionally, Abdullah made a 76-yard kickoff return in the third quarter. Abdullah appeared to be done after Nebraska went up 35-10 with 6:35 remaining in the third quarter.

However, someone must have alerted the staff that Abdullah was within two yards of Roy Helu Jr.'s single-game school-record of 321 all-purpose yards that he set against Missouri in 2010 and Abdullah was put back out presumably for one more carry.

In true Ameer fashion, he busted it for a



23-yard touchdown run, which was an exclamation point on statistically his best game ever as a Husker. In addition to his 225 rushing yards, Abdullah totaled 26 receiving yards and 90 kick return yards.

In case you were having second thoughts about going to one of these last two home games, Abdullah has gained more than 200 yards in four of the five home games (Florida Atlantic, Miami, Illinois, Rutgers) this season. His four 200-yard games ties Mike Rozier's mark that he set during the 1983 season. Ameer isn't the only memorable Husker senior whose time is running down in Lincoln.

Senior wide receiver Kenny Bell cemented his name at the top of the all-time receptions list with his six-catch performance Saturday. He is also now six yards shy of surpassing the great Johnny Rodgers for all-time receiving yards.

"Blocking for No. 8 is the highlight of my career," Bell added.

Don't think the seniors don't know their home games are limited as well.

"There was a point in the third quarter where I was standing next to Ameer and I said you know we only have nine quarters left here in Memorial Stadium," Bell said. "We were both like this is amazing, taking it in. Not many people get to play in front of 91,000 every single game...Before I know it, it will be January and I will be crying because I don't get to wear a N anymore."

Like usual, Bell and Abdullah were two of the last players to leave the field. After an interview with the BTN, a young boy wearing a No. 80 jersey asked if he could have his photograph taken with Abdullah on the big N at midfield. Abdullah obliged and after he headed toward the locker room the young boy turned around and high-fived his father and walked off the field on cloud nine.

These are the type of moments you won't want to miss these last two home games.





# Behind the N

## Rutgers Brings Scarlet Fever to Lincoln

PHOTOS BY JOE MIXAN, JIMMY RASH, MITCH OTTO/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED



Clockwise from bottom left: From left: Doug (Bellevue), Dave (Council Bluffs), Andie (Lincoln) and Luke (UNL) Gillespie debut "Red G" in the morning before the Rutgers game. Members of the Pi Beta Phi sorority pose for a shot before the Rutgers game. Pictured are Jayme Armstrong (Omaha), Elizabeth Evans (Omaha), Grace Theodor (Omaha), Sydney Gress (Papillion), Megan Cissoski (Omaha), Carrie Cable (Omaha), Kyle Brookhouser (Lincoln), Dani Williams (Castle Rock, Colo.), Katy Wilson (Fremont), Cassie Augustine (Omaha), Alyssa Anderson (Ralston) and Devan Sedlacek (Omaha). Kiffin Anderson of Omaha throws a ball outside the Coliseum before the game. Kenny Bell poses for a selfie with fans after the game. Leroy Kirchhoff from Lincoln is the ticket taker supervisor for gates 8 and 10. The band marches to Memorial Stadium before the game. Nick Grosshans of Aurora brought his grandson, Kayden Crosby (7) to his first Husker game. From left: Amanda Fevurly (Lawrence, Kan.), Kate Westburg (Overland Park, Kan.), Jake Siadelk (Omaha), Maria Watson (Lawrence, Kan.) and Lavren Boler (Omaha) pose for a shot before the Rutgers game. Collette Vanborkum from Brule poses with her children, Grace (10), John (5), and Emily (8).





# Armstrong accounts for three touchdowns

Tommy Armstrong Jr. races into the endzone for a 16-yard touchdown run in the first quarter.



STORY BY TERRY DOUGLASS | PHOTO BY JOE MIXAN

**T**ommy Armstrong Jr.'s up-and-down day mirrored Nebraska's offensive performance in a 42-24 victory over Rutgers.

Armstrong completed 14-of-22 pass attempts for 163 yards and two touchdowns. The sophomore quarterback also rushed six times for 19 yards, including a career-best 16-yard scoring run on the Cornhuskers' first offensive possession.

While Nebraska head coach Bo Pelini and offensive coordinator Tim Beck both expressed some frustration with the offense's lack of consistency, Armstrong was somewhat more upbeat. The Huskers, led by I-back Ameer Abdullah's 225-yard rushing day, finished with 455 total yards and scored TDs on

five of their first nine offensive possessions.

"We're good, but we can get better," Armstrong said. "We're a dangerous team when we actually are all in and when we're giving 100 percent. We just have to make sure that we stay consistent."

With 182 total yards against Rutgers, Armstrong now has 2,210 yards of total offense. That figure is the third-highest total offense mark in school history through eight games.

"I thought Tommy did a lot of good things," Pelini said. "I thought he played pretty well. He's pretty efficient in what he did. Other than the really bad decision he made on the interception, I thought he did a lot of good things."

Armstrong had two turnovers on the day. His interception came with 8:18 left

in the second quarter and he lost one of his two fumbles with 1:59 remaining in the third.

"We just have to make sure that we stay on the right page," Armstrong said. "We just got too comfortable. We put our defense in some bad situations at times."

On a positive note, Armstrong threw TD passes of eight yards to tight end Sam Cotton and four yards to wide receiver Jordan Westerkamp in the third quarter. The scoring pass to Cotton was his second of the season and the third receiving TD for a Nebraska tight end this year.

"You just have to understand they have to be part of the play-making crew," Armstrong said of Nebraska's tight ends. "When their number is called they have to step up, and I think that they took that challenge the right way."



# Collins causes chaos for Knights' offense

STORY BY TERRY DOUGLASS | PHOTO BY JIMMY RASH

Nebraska defensive lineman Maliek Collins offered a sneak preview of what he's capable of during the Cornhuskers' 42-24 victory over Rutgers.

Collins led the Blackshirts with three tackles for loss, including a sack, and three quarterback hurries. The sophomore defensive tackle also finished second on the team behind linebacker Zaire Anderson's 11 total tackles with a career-high seven stops.

But as well as Collins performed against the Scarlet Knights, Nebraska defensive coordinator John Papuchis said Nebraska's coaching staff expects even bigger things from the 6-foot-2, 300-pounder from Kansas City, Mo.

"He's a sophomore, so I would think

that with every game and every experience, he's going to continue to get better," Papuchis said. "I don't think we have gotten to the point where he's really come close to being the player he could be."

Collins, Randy Gregory, Kevin Williams and Jack Gangwish combined for two sacks, six tackles for loss and six quarterback hurries for the Cornhuskers.

"I thought our front four controlled the run game in the first three quarters," Papuchis said. "Things got a little leaky on us in the fourth quarter, but until we see some of the tape, it's a little bit hard to tell on all the run plays how (Rutgers) was getting out when the second group started going in, but I thought our starting four played pretty good."

It was Collins who broke free into the

backfield and caused quarterback Gary Nova to throw an incompleteness late in the first half. Nova was injured on the play and didn't return.

"Maliek got good pressure on the quarterback," Papuchis said. "I thought he was controlling the line of scrimmage and I thought he played pretty solid."

Nebraska safety Nate Gerry, who recorded his third interception of the season in the first quarter, said the Huskers' front four was getting good pressure on Rutgers' quarterbacks all day.

"I think our D-line had one of its best games as a unit," Gerry said. "We had a lot of big plays. Maliek and Randy played real well and Greg McMullen played real well, too. With pressure like that, it makes the quarterback made some bad decisions every now and then."

Defensive tackle Maliek brings down Rutgers quarterback Gary Nova for a sack.





# Nebraska rides Abdullah to 42-28 win

## Huskers not satisfied with effort in sloppy home victory

STORY BY LANNY HOLSTEIN | PHOTO BY JOE MIXAN

**N**ebraska beat Rutgers 42-24 Saturday afternoon, a convincing win that most coaches and players would be happy with, but it felt more like a loss than a win in the Nebraska postgame media room.

"Well, we got the win. I'm happy about that," coach Bo Pelini said afterwards. "But that's about all I'm happy about. I thought we were sloppy, inconsistent and we didn't play at the standard we needed to. I'll take the win. Anytime you win a football game, it's never easy to win. But I have higher standards than what I watched out there today."

The Huskers were plagued with a number of penalties on the offensive line, a couple of inexplicable plays by individual players and what Pelini described as breakdowns on the defensive side of the ball.

The defensive miscues, which most notably lead to a 71-yard touchdown pass from Rutgers quarterback Gary Nova to receiver Leonte Carroo, were on the forefront of the coach's mind.

"Bad communication, missed assignments, dropping coverage when the quarterback scrambles, things that will get you beaten down the line," Pelini said. "It didn't get us beaten today, but it will get you beaten down the line. We've got to get some things fixed. We need to have some discipline on the defensive side of the ball."

All told, the defense allowed the Scarlet Knights 348 yards of offense and three trips to the end zone - a couple of them coming late, with the game in hand - but the fact that the unit seemed to let up didn't make the coach any happier.

"He knows how good we can be, so he wants better," defensive tackle Vincent Valentine said after the game.

On the offensive side, it was a similar attitude following the win. Nebraska scored 42 points and put up 455 yards of offense, but it wasn't good enough because execution was sloppy there too.

The Huskers did find success running Ameer Abdullah on outside zone plays throughout the game. The senior went over



Ameer Abdullah rushes for 225 yards and three scores against Rutgers.

200 yards for the fourth time this season, scoring three touchdowns in the process.

"We kept pounding them, pounding them, pounding them, hoping that we would get a guy out of gap, and we would," offensive coordinator Tim Beck said. "We would reach him, and there would be a big hole for Ameer. That's kind of what the plan was once we saw what was going on."

The problems came from a discipline standpoint. The offensive line did well paving the way, but holding and false start penalties plagued them.

"(Rutgers) did a lot of blitzing and slant-

ing, and our guys just have to sit in there," Beck said. "When they're moving to try to get to the gaps, and we're moving, it's a false start on us. We're hurrying, trying to cut a guy off."

In the end, the coaches said they will take the win, but there is still a lot to clean up. Beck said it best as he walked away from the media horde.

"It's probably five or six plays that make the difference," he said. "I'm a perfectionist and some of the guys on our team are the same way. You just expect perfection when you go out there and you work so hard."



## SUMMARY

### SCORING

October 25, 2014

Memorial Stadium, Lincoln, Nebraska

Attendance: 91,088

	1	2	3	4	F
RUTGERS	7	0	10	7	24
NEBRASKA	7	14	14	7	42

**Q1** 5:58 NEB - Armstrong Jr, Tommy 2 yd run

(Brown, Drew kick) 9-69 3:57

00:10 RUT - Carroo, Leonte 71 yd pass Nova, Gary (Federico, Kyle kick) 3-75 1:27

**Q2** 13:39 NEB - Abdullah, Ameer 51 yd run

(Brown, Drew kick) 4-67 1:25

10:28 NEB - Abdullah, Ameer, 48 yd run (Brown, Drew kick) 2-64 0:26

**Q3** 12:08 NEB - Cotton, Sam 8 yd pass from

Tommy Armstrong (Brown, Drew kick) 5-72 2:47

9:10 RUT - Federico, Kyle, 41 yd field goal 6-51 4:52

6:35 NEB - Westerkamp, Jordan 4 yd pass from Armstrong (Brown, Drew kick) 5-24 2:23

0:04 RUT - Peoples, Desmon 3 yd run

(Federico, Kyle kick) 4-21 1:55

**Q4** 8:07 NEB - Abdullah, Ameer 23 yd run (Brown, Drew kick) 5-52 2:42

5:11 RUT - Martin, Robert 4 yd run (Federico, Kyle kick) 6-53 2:47

RUTGERS	NO
0	7
7	7
7	14
7	21
7	28
10	28
10	35
17	35
17	42
24	42

### TEAM STATS

	NEBRASKA	RUTGERS
FIRST DOWNS	21	15
Rushing	11	7
Passing	8	8
Penalty	2	0
NET YARDS RUSHING	292	143
Rushing Attempts	41	38
Average Per Rush	7.1	3.8
Rushing Touchdowns	4	2
Yards Gained Rushing	314	165
Yards Lost Rushing	22	22
NET YARDS PASSING	163	205
Completions-Attempts-Int.	14-22-1	12-26-1
Average Per Attempt	7.4	7.9
Average Per Completion	11.6	17.1
Passing Touchdowns	2	1
TOTAL OFFENSE YARDS	455	348
Total offense plays	63	64
Average Gain Per Play	7.2	5.4
Fumbles: Number-Lost	4-1	0-0
Penalties: Number-Yards	5-35	4-26
PUNTS-YARDS	3-99	5-216
Average Yards Per Punt	33.0	43.2
Net Yards Per Punt	33.0	36.0
Inside 20	2	1
50+ Yards	0	1
Touchbacks	0	0
Fair catch	2	0
KICKOFFS-YARDS	7-431	4-203
Average Yards Per Kickoff	61.6	50.8
Net Yards Per Kickoff	39.1	22.2
Touchbacks	1	0
Punt returns: Number-Yards-TD	4-36-0	0-0-0
Average Per Return	9.0	0.0
Kickoff returns: Number-Yds-TD	4-114-0	6-132-0
Average Per Return	28.5	22.0
Interceptions: Number-Yds-TD	1-28-0	1-2-0
Fumble Returns: Number-Yds-TD	0-0-0	0-0-0
Possession Time	29:28	30:32
Third-Down Conversions	8 of 13	4 of 12
Fourth-Down Conversions	0 of 0	0 of 1
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	3-4	2-2
Touchdowns	3-4	2-2
Field goals	0-4	0-2
Sacks By: Number-Yards	2-19	0-0
PAT Kicks	6-6	3-3
Field Goals	0-1	1-2

## INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

### RUTGERS

RUSHING	NO	GAIN	LOST	NET	TD	LG	AVG
Laviano, Chris	5	66	12	54	0	46	10.8
Martin, Robert	6	32	0	32	1	8	5.3
Peoples, Desmon	12	33	1	32	1	8	2.7
Goodwin, Justin	13	33	2	31	0	8	2.4
Nova, Gary	2	1	7	-6	0	1	-3.0
Totals	38	165	22	143	2	46	3.8

PASSING	C-A-I	YDS	TD	LONG	SACK
Nova, Gary	8-19-1	156	1	71	1
Laviano, Chris	4-7-0	49	0	21	1
Totals	12-26-1	205	1	71	2

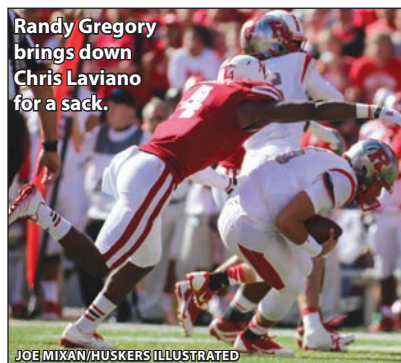
RECEIVING	NO	YARDS	TD	LONG
Carroo, Leonte	5	127	1	71
Kroft, Tyler	2	18	0	14
Martin, Robert	1	21	0	21
Agudosi, Carlton	1	18	0	18
Turzilli, Andrew	1	12	0	12
Burton, Michael	1	8	0	8
Peoples, Desmon	1	1	0	1
Totals	12	205	1	71

PUNTS	NO	YDS	AVG	LONG	IN20	TB
Gradone, Chris	8	295	36.9	44	0	0

RETURNS	NO	YDS	LG	NO	YDS	LG	NO	YDS	LG
Cioffi, Anthony	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2
Grant, Janarion	0	0	0	1	44	44	2	0	0
Hicks, Josh	0	0	0	5	88	24	2	0	0

FIELD GOALS	QTR	TIME	DISTANCE	RES
Federico, Kyle	2nd	02:46	50 yds	Blocked
Federico, Kyle	3rd	09:10	41 yds	Good

DEFENSE	TS	AT	TT	SACK-YD	TFL-YD	FF	FR-YD	INT-YD	BU	BLK	QBH
3 Longa, Steve	8	2	10	-	1-1	-	-	-	-	-	-
50 Gause, Quint	3	4	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
90 Milewski, Da	3	3	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26 Aiken, John	4	0	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31 Cioffi, Anth	4	0	4	-	-	-	-	1-2	-	-	-
98 Stephenson, D	2	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12 Barnwell, Na	2	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 Snyder, Kevin	2	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
58 Turay, Kemo	2	1	3	-	1-3	-	-	-	-	-	-
46 Burton, Mich	0	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
93 Mera, Djwany	0	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
91 Hamilton, Dar	0	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29 Jacobs, Davon	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
53 Pinnix-Odrick, J	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7 Martin, Robert	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
27 Stephenson, De	0	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 Nova, Gary	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
87 Matthews, V	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21 Waters, Lor	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



### NEBRASKA

RUSHING	NO	GAIN	LOST	NET	TD	LG	AVG
Abdullah, Ameer	19	228	3	225	3	53	11.8
Newby, Terrell	10	33	3	30	0	8	3.0
Cross, Imani	5	29	1	28	0	17	5.6
Armstrong Jr., Tommy	6	24	5	19	1	16	3.2
TEAM	1	0	10	-10	0	0	-10.0
Totals	41	314	22	292	4	53	7.1

PASSING	C-A-I	YDS	TD	LONG	SACK
Armstrong Jr., Tommy	14-22-1	163	2	22	0
Totals	14-22-1	163	2	22	0

RECEIVING	NO	YARDS	TD	LONG
Bell, Kenny	6	63	0	14
Westerkamp, Jordan	3	40	1	20
Moore, Alonzo	2	26	0	22
Abdullah, Ameer	2	26	0	16
Cotton, Sam	1	8	1	8
Totals	19	237	1	46

PUNTS	NO	YDS	AVG	LONG	IN20	TB
Foltz, Sam	3	99	33.3	36	2	0

RETURNS	NO	YDS	LG	NO	YDS	LG	NO	YDS	LG
Pierson-El, Dem	4	36	20	0	0	0	0	0	0
Abdullah, Ameer	0	0	0	2	90	76	0	0	0
Gerry, Nate	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	28	28
Hart, Greg	0	0	0	1	10	10	0	0	0
Newby, Terrell	0	0	0	1	14	14	0	0	0

FIELD GOALS	QTR	TIME	DISTANCE	RES
Brown, Drew	1st	01:37	42 yds	Missed

DEFENSE	TS	AT	TT	SACK-YD	TFL-YD	FF	FR-YD	INT-YD	BU	BLK	QBH
13 Anderson, Z	6	5	11	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
7A Collins, Maliek	1	6	7	1-7	3-8	-	-	-	-	-	3
6 Cooper, Corey	5	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
43 Roach, Trevor	1	5	6	-	1-1	-	-	-	1	-	-
5 Mitchell, Josh	5	0	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
4 Gregory, Randy	2	3	5	1-12	1-12	-	-	-	1	2	-
41 Santos, David	2	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
52 Banderas, Jo	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
90 McMullen, Gr	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 Gerry, Nathan	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	1-28	-	-	-
92 Williams, Kev	0	3	3	-	1-0	-	-	-	-	1	-
31 Felici, Joey	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
95 Gangwish, Ja	0	2	2	-	1-1	-	-	-	-	-	-
49 Weber, Chris	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 Kalu, Josh	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23 Davie, Daniel	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1E Jones, Chris	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14 Rose, Jonath	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
80 Bell, Kenny	1	0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
28 Cockrell, By	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29 Nabity, Grah	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2C Williams, Kier	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-





**RUSHING OFFENSE:** It wasn't Nebraska's best performance to date but the Huskers were able to take care of business on the ground behind Ameer Abdullah and Armstrong. The Husker running back finished with three touchdowns – all of which came from 23-yards out or further. Abdullah totaled 225 yards in the win. NU's offensive line was successful for the most part and the majority of the team's scores took place with Ryne Reeves at center and Chongo Kondolo at right guard. Nebraska had success springing Abdullah to the next level where he was free to work against Rutgers' linebackers and defensive backs, netting chunks of yards. NU did have a fumble on a bad snap exchange and the coaches were unhappy with penalties, but it was a mostly positive result. – *Mike Schaefer*

B+

**PASSING OFFENSE:** Tommy Armstrong threw a pair of third quarter touchdowns, which helped mask what had been a kind of ugly game up until that point. The quarterback was leaving the ball high and had a second quarter stretch where he couldn't complete a pass, before ultimately throwing an interception. He finished the day 14-of-22 for 163 yards and two touchdowns. Nebraska's receivers played a mostly clean game. Alonzo Moore had a couple tough plays that he wasn't able to make, but came down with a nice second half reception when the ball was near him. Kenny Bell made Nebraska history with six catches that made him the all-time receptions leader. Both Sam Cotton and Jordan Westerkamp made nice catches on well thrown balls in the third quarter to give Armstrong his two scores. – *Mike Schaefer*

C+

**RUSHING DEFENSE:** Nebraska played most of the game without defensive tackle Vincent Valentine, but Kevin Williams stepped up to help keep Rutgers from running the ball up the middle. Linebacker Zaire Anderson had another solid game for the Huskers, registering 11 tackles. Maliek Collins added seven tackles from his defensive back position. The Huskers allowed a few big plays in the running game, but for the most part, held up well against Rutgers' downhill running game. – *Michael Bruntz*

B-

**PASSING DEFENSE:** The Huskers got burned early in the game on a 71-yard touchdown pass by Gary Nova off a scramble, but otherwise held the Scarlet Knights in check through the air. Rutgers' quarterbacks combined to go 12-for-26 through the air, and the Huskers were able to get two sacks and an interception to keep Rutgers off schedule. Nebraska wanted to make Rutgers win the game through the air, and the Huskers did a nice job of not allowing the Scarlet Knights to make big plays in the passing game. – *Michael Bruntz*

B-

**KICKING/SPECIAL TEAMS:** This one could go either way for Nebraska's special teams units. The Huskers had their struggles at times – Drew Brown missed a 42-yard field goal, and the Huskers had trouble getting kickoffs to the end zones. But there were good things too – Randy Gregory blocked a field goal, and Nebraska again held a decisive advantage in the field position battle against Rutgers. Nebraska didn't have the usual electric returns that fans have gotten spoiled by, but the Huskers did do a nice job of protecting punter Sam Foltz and keeping Rutgers from making a game-changing play on special teams. – *Michael Bruntz*

B-

# Game Notes

## KENNY BELL SETS CAREER RECEPTIONS MARK

Nebraska receiver Kenny Bell caught six balls for 63 yards on Saturday to break the Nebraska career receptions record. Bell's final catch put him at 167 receptions in his four year career, one more than former leader Nate Swift.

"It's a great feeling, obviously, to be in the same breath as Nate Swift and Johnny Rodgers," Bell said. "That's pretty amazing. Swift is an unbelievable guy. I've gotten to meet him quite a few times and obviously, everybody loves Johnny Rodgers."

Bell is at 2,473 yards now, six shy of Rodgers all-time mark at Nebraska. The senior receiver will no doubt best that mark with four games to go in the regular season, and possibly two more on top of that.

He nearly got both records in the same game, but Bell was merely focused on the receptions mark against Rutgers. When he caught the record-breaking ball, he raised it high in the air and made sure it would be stored away for safe keeping.

"Yeah, I knew where I was the whole game. I'd be lying if I said I didn't," Bell said after the game. "I didn't know yardage-wise, but I knew how many catches I needed. I knew I needed six. I'm really thankful for coach Beck, Bo, the mad scientist and the boss man really tried their best to get it to me today. I couldn't be more appreciative."

## ABDULLAH BREAKS SINGLE-GAME ALL-PURPOSE YARDAGE RECORD

Nebraska running back Ameer Abdullah set his own school record on Saturday. The Heisman candidate and offensive catalyst produced 341 all-purpose yards against the Scarlet Knights – 225 rushing, 26 receiving and 90 kick return – to break the single game mark.

"I guess it was good," Abdullah said. "It's definitely a blessing. Like I've said before, coming here to Nebraska has been much more than I ever dreamed of. Just to accomplish that is definitely a blessing. We've just got to keep our heads down. All that stuff is good. You can't get caught up in that though right now because that's not what is important. What is important is tomorrow and making sure we handle this win the right way. Being as mature as possible about it and move on to Purdue."

He also leads the Nebraska career all-purpose chart with 6,604 yards and moved up to second in Big Ten history with his performance. Only Wisconsin's Ron Dayne (7,429) has more than Abdullah.

"We asked him to do a lot today," running back's coach Ron Brown said. "We had him out in an empty backfield as a wide receiver. He made some clutch plays out there for a couple conversions. We had him as a wildcat, and he got a first down on that. We had him in the diamond formation, and he scored on that. He just did a lot of things today, and that's the beauty of him."

## Quoting running back Ameer Abdullah on if he will pay more attention to records later:

"They're definitely memories. Every time I step on the field, whether it's practice or a game, I'm always creating memories here. There's definitely things I'm always going to remember coming here and playing for this great university. Not many people are blessed with that opportunity. Definitely, it's an honor."





Kenny Bell comes down with one of his six catches against Rutgers to surpass Nate Swift's school record for career receptions.



JOE MIXAN/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

Brown said that his running back is becoming comfortable with the adulation and record breaking performances. Abdullah is closing in on Mike Rozier's all time rushing lead – he's 554 yards short – and he needs to keep a level head, according to Brown.

"I think he's learning that you can't just handle adversity. You have to handle prosperity as well," Brown said. "Let another man praise thee, not thine own lips is what the scripture says. Ameer understands that principle. Once you start getting proud, you are going to humble yourself, or god's going to humble you."

## BLOCKED FIELD GOAL RESULTS IN CRAZY AFTERMATH

Nebraska defensive end Randy Gregory

blocked a Rutgers field goal in the second quarter, marking Nebraska's first blocked field goal since Josh Williams got one against Tennessee-Chattanooga in 2011.

Gregory and Maliek Collins broke through the line and reached up for the low Rutgers kick.

The ball floated gently into the hands of cornerback Josh Mitchell, who made an acrobatic return for negligible yardage before pitching it into a crowd of players as he was about to be tackled.

"Yeah I think he lost his mind, which made me lose my mind," coach Bo Pelini said of the play.

Luckily for Nebraska, defensive lineman Kevin Williams was there to recover the fumble and retain Nebraska possession.

## SNAP ISSUES CONTINUE TO PLAGUE OFFENSE

Fumbled snaps were again an issue for the Husker offense on Saturday. After what has become known as "clap gate" caused a number of fumbled exchanges between center Mark Pelini and quarterback Tommy Armstrong a few weeks ago against Michigan State, the problem arose once again against Rutgers.

"It was just miscommunication," Armstrong said. "We just have to make sure we get snaps down and make sure we get prepared for it, make sure we got those snaps down before the game."

There were two fumbled snaps against the Scarlet Knights – one jumped on by running back Terrell Newby for a loss, and the other jumped on by Rutgers for a turnover.



# FINAL SCORE: NEBRASKA 42, RUTGERS 28







CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE: JORDAN WESTERKAMP WATCHES AS SAM COTTON HAULS IN HIS SECOND TOUCH-DOWN OF THE SEASON. RANDY GREGORY GETS HIS HAND UP TO BLOCK A FIELD GOAL. JORDAN WESTERKAMP MAKES A TOUCH-DOWN GRAB. AMEER ABDULLAH BREAKS 48-YARD TOUCHDOWN AS RUTGERS DEFENDERS CAN'T CATCH HIM. SAM COTTON, ALEX LEWIS AND ALONZO MOORE CELEBRATE TOMMY ARMSTRONG'S TOUCHDOWN RUN. NATE GERRY MAKES HIS THIRD INTERCEPTION OF THE SEASON FOR THE HUSKERS.

PHOTOS BY  
JOE MIXAN  
& JIMMY RASH



# 2MinuteDrill

Back-up center Ryne Reeves blocks for Ameer Abdullah on Saturday against Rutgers.



**SECOND STRING  
LINEMEN SPARK  
RUSHING ATTACK**

JOE MIXAN/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED



By Darren Ivy and Lanny Holstein

The offense was stalling out, and running back Ameer Abdullah was struggling to get yardage on the ground nearly three quarters into Nebraska's game with Northwestern. The Husker coaching staff went to the drawing board and decided to make a line change. Out went the right side of the offensive line, and in came reserves Ryne Reeves, Chongo Kondolo and Givens Price.

It seemed an unlikely group of players to spark the struggling Nebraska offense, but it proved to be the right group. On their very first possession of the game, Reeves, Kondolo, and Price led the team down the field for a go-ahead touchdown, igniting a 24-point explosion that went into the fourth quarter.

"It was just fun," Kondolo said. "It's always a lot more fun when we get a win and we move the ball like we did in the second half."

The trio of linemen, playing in consecutive drives for the first time since the opening week, usually rotate in on about 20 percent of the snaps, according to Kondolo, but they were feeling it in that crucial stretch. When the time came for them to step up and push the starters, they were ready.

"I just look at it as competition," Kondolo said. "Since I've been here, me and Moudy have been competing, he's who I competed with last year before I redshirted. It's a friendly competition, trying to make each other better. It's the same down the line with Ryne and Mark (Pelini), Givens and Zach (Sterup)."

That second string line has a special bond, according to Kondolo, that may have given them an edge when they came into the game. It's something that's developed among those guys through the early season in practice.

"Me, Reeves, and Givens, we practice together, so we've kind of built a chemistry together, we know how each other plays, and the communication is there," Kondolo said.

The starting line has chemistry as well, and it shouldn't really matter which guys are in there on a given snap, according to Kondolo. The offensive line spends so much time together on the practice field and in the film room, chemistry should be a given.

"It's kind of overrated because we already played with all kinds of guys in camp," Kondolo said. "As long as the o-line has chemistry, as long as everyone who plays has chemistry, it doesn't really matter who's next to each other because we know that we can all go in and do our job."

That all starts with the offensive line coach. John Garrison is the guy who brings the linemen together and gets them on the same page.

"He's very passionate, and he's a great technician," Kondolo said. "He's also still young and played here, so he knows the tradition. He's very passionate about that."

Barney Cotton still works with the offensive line in addition to his duties as tight ends coach, so those guys get plenty of coaching, according to Kondolo.

Both coaches were in on the decision to go to the second-team offensive line late in the Northwestern game.

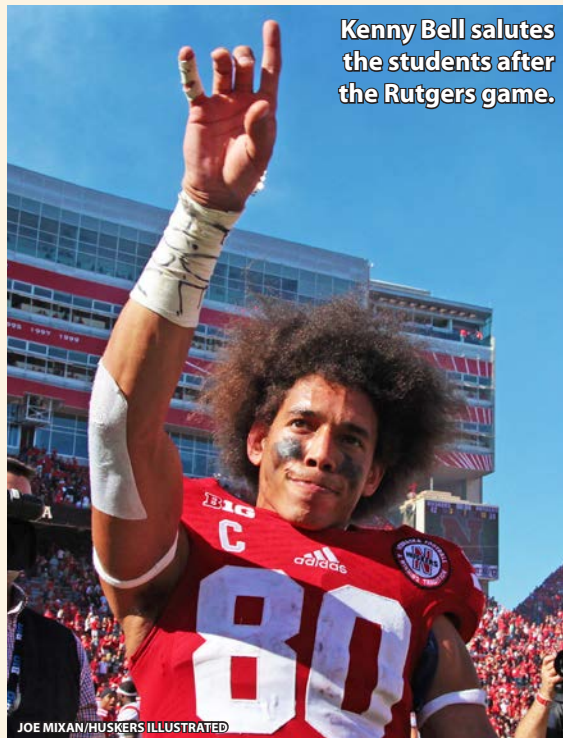
"One coach isn't going to see everything when it's live, so sometimes Garrison will see something, and Cotton will see something that Garrison doesn't see," Kondolo said. "It definitely helps to have them both there."

With the success that Kondolo, Reeves and Price had, they might be in line for an increased role down the stretch. Garrison and Cotton sounded like they might be headed in that direction.

"They told us to keep it coming, keep the attitude that we had in that game," Kondolo said.

## HI'S TOP5

# NEBRASKA CAREER RECEPTIONS LIST



Kenny Bell salutes the students after the Rutgers game.

- 1 KENNY BELL - WIDE RECEIVER**  
167 (2011-14)
- 2 NATE SWIFT - WIDE RECEIVER**  
166 (2005-08)
- 3 JOHNNY RODGERS - WINGBACK**  
143 (1970-72)
- 4 TERENCE NUNN - WIDE RECEIVER**  
136 (2004-07)
- 5 MARLON LUCKY - RUNNING BACK**  
135 (2005-08)

*In the fourth quarter of Saturday's game with Rutgers, senior receiver Kenny Bell moved into sole possession as the all-time career receptions leader at Nebraska. As soon as Bell made his sixth catch of the game, he held the ball up over his head and made sure the managers got the ball for him so that he could have it as a keepsake. Bell is within six yards of the all-time career receiving yards record and should get that against Purdue.*



# Take The Huskers With You!

Activate your  
**FREE  
FULL  
ACCESS**  
account today!



(Actual iPhone / iPad screens shown above)

As a valued subscriber to our magazine you also have **FREE FULL ACCESS** to our online suite of products including:

**INCLUDED!**

**Huskers Illustrated E-Edition:** A FREE online duplicate of the glossy magazine you can read on your PC/MAC, iPhone/iPad, and Android\* device. Available to view for FREE before your printed copy arrives!

**INCLUDED!**

**Huskers Illustrated Express:** This FREE online only edition is published regularly throughout the season, and is jam-packed with the latest news on your Huskers. You can expect:

- Complete Coverage of UN Football & Basketball
- In-Depth Recruiting Coverage
- Coach & Player Features
- Game Previews & Analysis
- Columns from the Experts
- AND much, much more!

**You can unlock free full access in minutes by activating your account online!**

1

Go to: [magazine.huskersillustrated.com](http://magazine.huskersillustrated.com) and click on "Register for E-Edition/Express"

2

Enter your Subscription Account ID # and Street Address  
(Enter exactly as they appear on your label)

3

Click continue, and fill in the information on the following page to activate your account.

\*\*\*\*\* ALL FOR ADC 400  
40515 0000 T72 P1  
Joe Cornhusker  
12345 Cornhusker Way  
Lincoln, NE 68506  
Subscription Account ID

**Your account is now registered for FREE FULL ACCESS!**

Return to [magazine.huskersillustrated.com](http://magazine.huskersillustrated.com) at any time to read the **E-Edition** or **Express** at no additional cost. Just look for **Access E-Edition** or **Access Express** under **VIEW**, and enter with the email and password you created during registration.

Thanks so much, and let us know if you need any further help.

Huskers Illustrated Staff  
[magazine.huskersillustrated.com](http://magazine.huskersillustrated.com)  
[support@huskersillustrated.com](mailto:support@huskersillustrated.com)

\*Android 2.2 or higher with Flash required. Not compatible with all devices.



## BLACKSHIRTS GIVEN OUT TO 16 DEFENDERS

It was a big week for the Husker defense. Coach Bo Pelini along with defensive coordinator John Papuchis made the decision to hand out the Blackshirts.

"We decided to after the game on Saturday, based on the challenges we faced at halftime, and the way they came out and corrected what we needed to be corrected and go out and play a good half to win the game," Papuchis said. "I thought based off of that, they were deserved to be handed out."

In total, 16 of them were handed out Tuesday, and there were some big smiles across the faces of those who were lucky enough to wear the honorary jerseys. Sophomore Maliek Collins got his first taste of the tradition, and he was extremely excited.

"It was cool for real. I was smiling, just cheesing all over the locker room," Collins said. "It felt good wearing it today. I kept pulling it down, to make sure it was looking right so I could see how I look on film."

Although 16 jerseys were handed out, only 15 of them made it to the practice field on Tuesday. Defensive linemen Randy Gregory, Collins, Vincent Valentine, Kevin Williams and Greg McMullen each wore them along with linebackers Trevor Roach, Zaire Anderson, and David Santos and defensive backs Josh Mitchell, Daniel Davie, Corey Cooper, Nate Gerry, Byerson Cockrell, Jonathan Rose and Joshua Kalu. Sophomore linebacker Josh Banderas earned the right to wear the 16th jersey, according to Papuchis, but he declined because he didn't feel he had earned it.

"Definitely I respect him because of that," Collins said of Banderas. "It shows that he's not complacent with where



Maliek Collins (7) and Greg McMullen (90) were among the NU defenders who received Blackshirts before the Rutgers game.



Linebackers Zaire Anderson, Trevor Roach and David Santos also received Blackshirts.

he is. He's always looking to reach another level."

The Husker defense has reached another level this season. After the Northwestern game, when the jerseys were handed out, the unit was ranked 28th in the nation, allowing just 338 yards per game. It was the No. 18 scoring defense as well, allowing 19.9 points per game.

## RECRUITING PACE PICKS UP FOR HUSKERS

Nebraska's earned a reputation for showing up late to the recruiting party at times, but this season, they are ahead of the pack, getting the majority of the 2015 class out of the way before the season.

There were 12 known commitments in the 2015 class, as

of this writing, and three in the 2016 class.

"I'm watching at a lot earlier of a time," Coach Bo Pelini said. "We won't have a huge signing class because of the number of seniors we have. I've watched a lot more 2016 guys this year than I remember in the past. For every 2015 guy I look at, I've looked at two, three, five kids."

That kind of pacing has Nebraska's coaches on track for some of their best classes, at least according to the major recruiting services.

"I like where we are in recruiting," Pelini said. "I think that (Athletic Director) Shawn (Eichorst) and the administration have done a heck of a job giving us all the tools and sit-

ting down and trying to figure out everything we need. I like what we have in place."

## PELINI NOT A FAN OF SEC NETWORK

Nebraska Coach Bo Pelini stirred up the national media a bit this past week with his comments on the relationship ESPN has with the Southeastern Conference.

The coach was asked for his thoughts on the conference having five of the top 10 teams in the AP Poll and if the extensive coverage given to the league by ESPN was a factor in that.

"I don't think that kind of relationship is good for college football," Pelini said. "That's just my opinion. Anytime you





Punter Sam Foltz has worked to improve his punting techniques since he arrived on campus.



# 1-on-1 with SAM FOLTZ

**Story By** LANNY HOLSTEIN • **Photo By** JIMMY RASH

***How do you feel like you guys have lately in the punting game?***

“Real well. We started out really hot, and these last couple games my averages have gone down, but the situations have been a lot of pooches, so I’m just trying to execute inside the 20s and pin teams deep. I think we’ve done well as a unit.”

***How different is it trying to pin a team inside the 20 versus just booting it deep?***

“It’s a lot different. The leg speed and stuff like that. You have to know your leg and trust your leg, put a lot of hours in with it. You have to know how to put the right spin on the ball, and even going into the wind the last couple games is a different strategy to. I feel like I’ve improved in that. It’s a big part of the game.”

***How do you put spin on a punt?***

“Going into the wind, I have to hit a clean ball, a perfect, tight spiral, so when it gets up into the wind, it pierces through the wind and doesn’t get knocked back. When I have the wind at my back, Ozzy punt puts the nose down, so when it hits it bounces back away from the end zone. I’ve gotten a lot better at that since last year.”

***How much do you know from week to week about who you are kicking to? It seems like opposing punters are***

***trying to keep it away from De’Mornay Pierson-El.***

“I don’t really concern myself with it, honestly. I kind of stay within my own grasp of the game. I trust myself to put a ball up in the sky. It doesn’t matter who’s back there, if he’s the best in the country or the worst in the country, my punt team is going to get down there. I just concern myself with hitting a high spinning ball to the sideline.”

***So you guys do a directional punt then?***

“We have. Like against Illinois when they were ranked top three in the country in punt return, we would work sidelines and stuff like that. In that game, there were two pooch punts, and I hit another ball way up in the air, so he fair caught it.”

***What kind of relationship do you have with your gunners? They are kind of your guys right?***

“We have a great relationship because I appreciate what they do. A lot of my success is based on them running down there and tackling a guy or getting their heels up against the goal line and stopping a ball inside the five. Your relationship has to be good with them, and it is.”

***Are you and the gunners concerned with hang time?***

“I concern myself with it because I

know that if I hit a 4.8, 4.9, 5.0 ball, no one is ever going to return that. They better put their hands up in the air, or our gunners are going to make a big collision. I concern myself with it because I know I can take a lot of the stress off of our punt unit.”

***So you have it down to a science. What is the goal hang time?***

“I try to be anywhere between 4.7 to 5.0, 5.1. I mean, above that, it’s a win for me, obviously. I know if I hit those balls, they have to fair catch it. If they don’t, there’s going to be a heck of a collision because the gunners are going to get down there.”

***So do you go back on the film to mark the hang times of each punt?***

“We use the film, but I know when I hit a ball. I can judge it, and when it comes off my foot I can judge if it was a good punt or not.”

***How about those guys on the shield in front of you? They have to be your best friends too, right?***

“Oh yeah. I trust my life to those guys, obviously. If a guy comes through them and into my leg, it’s not good. I trust those guys a lot, and I appreciate what they do because it’s definitely not fun to have a guy run at you full speed head on. They’ve done a heck of a job because no one has really gotten close to you.”



# HUSKER HOOPS PARKING



[parkandgo.org](http://parkandgo.org)

## IT'S A SLAM DUNK!

Follow us on



[/LincolnParking](#)



have a relationship with somebody, you have a partnership, you are supposed to be neutral. It's pretty hard to stay neutral in that situation."

ESPN owns the SEC Network, which is in its first year of existence, and spends, according to some fans, a bit too much time covering the league on its mothership network. It should be noted that Fox Sports owns the Big Ten Network.

### GERRY AT HOME AT SAFETY

Sophomore Nebraska safety Nate Gerry has been a rock in the third level of the Nebraska defense this season along with senior Corey Cooper. The youngster is having a heck of a season, according to Coach Bo Pelini, because he's back at his natural position.

A year ago, Nebraska was strapped at linebacker and Pelini saw an opportunity where he could get Gerry on the field, so he took it.

"I think personally, his experience playing 'up' (linebacker) last year helped him," Pelini said. "I don't think he was real comfortable with it last year, especially early on, but I think that experience having to deal with the run fits and things you have to at the second level really helped things come together for him at the safety position."

It's not uncommon for Pelini to move safeties down inside the box early in their careers. In fact, Cooper played as a Nickel and even a corner his first few seasons as a Husker. The looks those guys get down low helps them gain an understanding of what's happening elsewhere when they move back over the top.

"We do use the safeties a lot in our run fits, so he had that experience in high school playing safety, but I think him playing up gave him a lot more exposure and has made him a



JIMMY RASH/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

better player," Pelini said of Gerry. "I think his understanding of what is going on is really growing."

That's the focus for Gerry because, according to Pelini, the sophomore has all the physical ability in the world.

"He has great ball skills, and he is just a lot more comfortable deep than where he was," Pelini said. "He actually struggled some in coverage a year ago at the second level from the linebacker position. It was more because his eyes were in the wrong position because he was used to playing from a deeper level. Now you see he is very, very natural back there in the safety position. That becomes more obvious. He makes great plays on the football, and has really good instincts at the position."

### PELINI WANTS TO BRING IN PARENTS FOR VISITS

Nebraska Coach Bo Pelini made it very clear this week that he is in favor of including traveling expenses for parents on the official visit expense report, when it comes to recruiting.

Problem is, that's not how everyone feels.

"I think that's always a problem when they are making rules in the structure of the NCAA now, everyone has different agendas," Pelini said. "It's like when you walk into a room and talk about rule changes and you have different subdivisions. They all have different issues that they're dealing with."

Pelini acknowledged that this kind of a change would be good for him at Nebraska, but he said his intentions are pure.

"My whole sense of bringing parents on visits is I just look at it from a parent's standpoint," the coach said. "If a kid, a 17 or 18-year-old, is getting ready to make a life-changing decision his parents should be with him. You have a small percentage of kids who are ready to weed out and be able to make their decisions for the right reasons, but you have a large majority of kids who aren't ready to make that decision because they don't even know what is important at that point."

The coach said he's seen his fair share of poor 18-year-old decision making.

"Like it's not about the uniforms bud, this is a four-year decision," he said. "These are the things that are important here, and I think that some times that gets lost."





# RECRUITING NOTEBOOK

BY MICHAEL SCHAEFER

RECRUITING EDITOR

HUSKERSILLUSTRATED.COM

## Wide receiver Brown plans a Nov. 1 visit

Wide receiver Tony Brown will be making his first official visit on Nov. 1 and that trip will take him to Nebraska to see the Cornhuskers host the Purdue Boilermakers.

Brown's father, David Alvarado, said it was important to get Nebraska on the schedule so the family could see what the Huskers have to offer.

"We're starting the trips and Nebraska will be our first trip," he said. "I'm going to head out there with Tony and his uncle. We're going to see what Nebraska is like, the atmosphere and see the great history, the rich history. We want to go down there and see how my boy feels. We think it should be good but you don't know until you get there."

Recruiting has really picked up for Brown over the last month. The La Mirada (Calif.) High School wide receiver added the bulk of his offers in the spring and summer but new teams are starting to show some interest as of late including Miami and USC.

A connection between

assistant Rich Fisher and La Mirada coach Mike Moschetti led to Nebraska's early interest in Brown that ended in an offer this July. Since then Alvarado said he's enjoyed getting to know the Nebraska wide receiver's coach.

"We're going into a situation where trust shouldn't be an issue and we feel comfortable with that," he said. "Coach Fisher is a great guy. It seems like he'll be able to prepare Tony to compete at the next level. We really do like the feeling we have when we get to talk with Coach Fisher. We think they're really interested in Tony. They want Tony and they like the physical skills of Tony. There's an opportunity to help at Nebraska."

Nebraska likes Brown's size and see good maturation in the wide receiver according to Alvarado.

"He's really good with his routes, he runs his routes really well," Alvarado said. "He's improved a lot. He's learned how to go up and get the ball this year. He's got a good body for jumping in the

air. He doesn't drop balls and he's helped on special teams with returns.

"The difference between Tony this year and last year is pretty much night and day. I think that's what schools are seeing is that maturity. Schools are looking at that. They want to know what it's going to be like from his senior year in high school to his freshman year in college."

The family was quite excited when Nebraska offered back at the end of July.

"We weren't surprised, we were excited because that is a big-time program," he said. "An offer from Nebraska really meant a lot. It made us feel like Tony is coming along because now we've got an offer from a big school. There was a lot of excitement because we had some offers from some smaller schools, so to hear from Nebraska really meant something."

The big thing for Alvarado is making sure his son is comfortable when he visits Lincoln. He also wants to see in what ways academically

that Nebraska will be able to support Brown.

"Education is really important so we want to see what kind of support group Nebraska has," he said. "We also want to make sure it's a good fit as far as the atmosphere. Then it's football. How will he be used? Where does he fall on the board? Who is going to be joining him in his class? What quarterbacks do they have or have coming in? All of those things are pretty important."

Quarterback remains somewhat unsettled for NU in this class. Somewhat surprisingly, there's no crossover between Kevin Dillman and Brown. The two transferred at roughly the same time. Dillman went down to Texas just before Brown switched over to La Mirada.

Besides the Huskers the wide receiver is looking to set up November visits to Texas Tech, Utah and Washington State.

Brown is a three-star recruit as ranked by both 247Sports and 247Sports Composite. **N**



# Singing is about only thing Ameer Abdullah can't do well

BY MICHAEL BRUNTZ

**AS AMEER ABDULLAH** stepped to the podium, fresh off a 225-yard rushing, three touchdown performance against Rutgers, two of his former running back roommates were playing in games across the country.

Aaron Green, a former four-star running back now at TCU, and Braylon Heard, a former four-star running back at Kentucky, were working to get their names on the map.

Abdullah, who many considered third in that trio of talented backs when they enrolled at Nebraska, was answering questions about becoming No. 2 in the history of the Big Ten in all-purpose yards, and what it was like to put together his 23rd career 100-yard rushing game, as he moved to within 554 yards of passing Mike Rozier to become the all-time leading rusher in Nebraska history.

"Every time I step on the field or in practice or in a game, I'm always creating memories here," Abdullah said. "There are definitely things I'm always going to remember playing here for this great university. Not many people are blessed with that and that's an honor."

Against Rutgers, Abdullah showed off a little bit of everything from his game. He showed off the quickness and cuts that he worked on so hard in the offseason, as he finished off runs of 53, 48 and 23 yards.

He ran a bit out of the wildcat on Saturday, and actually moved past Heisman winner Archie Griffin into No. 2 on the Big Ten's all-purpose yard list with a 76-yard kick return. Abdullah now has 6,604 career all-purpose yards and only trails former Wisconsin Heisman Trophy winner Ron Dayne, who sits at 7,429 all-purpose yards.

"I didn't even know I had as many yards as I did at the end of the game," Abdullah said. "I felt like I missed a couple things earlier that I'm still kicking myself about missing. It could have been an even bigger game. That's why you watch film, and that's why you play the game."

Though Nebraska walked out with a win over Rutgers, Abdullah helped spark a Nebraska offense that was struggling to move the ball at times. That has been Abdullah's approach all season. He used a few long runs to push Nebraska ahead against Northwestern, and did so again against Rutgers – long runs turning into quick opportunities to shift momentum.

Give credit to Abdullah, who came back for his senior year, despite strong NFL prospects and pushed himself even harder to be an even better running back. He has continued to excel, even with Nebraska running a quiet Heisman campaign for him, and opposing defenses keying on him.



**"I just keep practicing. First and foremost, I just want to graduate. I'm focused on graduating right now more than any attention or any hype that surrounds me, because I'm only going to be as successful as my team."**

The senior running back has approached his senior season the same way he does most things – with focus and a single-minded purpose.

"I just keep practicing," Abdullah said. "First and foremost, I just want to graduate. I'm focused on graduating right now more than any attention or any hype that surrounds me, because I'm only going to be as successful as my team."

Nebraska sits at 7-1 in the Big Ten season, and still controls its own destiny in the race for the West Division title. If the Huskers are going to get to Indianapolis – or even beyond, Nebraska is going to need a little bit of everything from Abdullah, who seems to be able to do it all. Well, almost.

"He can't sing," Nebraska quarterback Tommy Armstrong said. "That's all I know. He's done a great job.

He's a playmaker. Get the ball in his hands in certain situations, that's what he does. We knew that after the first time he stepped out there. You just have to make sure you go about it the right way. We praise the offensive line because it starts off with those guys. He's done a great job as well."

He's done a great job as well." **N**

*Read daily Husker reports from*

*Michael Bruntz at*

*HuskersIllustrated.com*

*Follow him on Twitter*

*@michaelbruntz*



Scouting Report



# Purdue Boilermakers

*Purdue has bye week to recover from one-point Minnesota loss, prepare for Huskers.* | DOUG GRIFFITHS

Purdue is in Year Two of the Darrell Hazell era and already he's turning some heads.

"The way they're playing right now is crazy," Badgers running back Melvin Gordon told the Wisconsin State Journal. "Purdue is a team to really watch out for."

Gordon isn't the only one noticing Purdue's improved play.

Minnesota coach Jerry Kill, whose team beat the Boilermakers by a point at home, said, "I said that there's a good chance we'd have to get in the 30s to win because of what they did to Michigan State."

Kill's team beat Purdue 39-38 after the Boilermakers lost to Michigan State 45-31, a game Purdue trailed late by just a touchdown.

Sure, the Boilermakers will come to Lincoln with a losing record and need to win three of their final four games to become bowl eligible, but no doubt Purdue coach Darrell Hazell's team is much improved over last year's 1-11 team that

didn't win a Big Ten game.

## NEW QB IS THE DIFFERENCE

If you're looking for why Purdue has improved, look no further than the quarterback position. The Boilermakers started this season with Danny Etling as the No. 1 quarterback, but after a 2-3 start, Hazell went to Austin Appleby.

Appleby started at Illinois and led Purdue to a 38-27 road victory. Then Appleby led a very valiant effort by the Boilermakers against the Spartans and nearly pulled off their second straight Big Ten road win against the Golden Gophers.

Not only is Appleby an effective passer, but he's proving to be a dangerous runner, too. Against the Illini, he had a 62-yard rush, the team's longest run of the season.

## FASTEST MAN IN FOOTBALL

Purdue boasts the fastest player in college football in senior running back/kick returner Raheem Mostert per NFL.com.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PURDUE SPORTS INFORMATION

Running back Akeem Hunt has over 5,000 all-purpose yards in his career, ranking in the top five in Purdue annals.



## THE VITALS

**WHAT:** Purdue @ #16 Nebraska

**WHEN/WHERE:** 2:30 p.m. Memorial Stadium, capacity 87,000

**TV:** ABC

**Radio:** The Husker Sports Network broadcasts the action to 27 statewide radio markets. KFAB (1110 AM) serves as the Omaha affiliate and KLIN (1400 AM) serves as the Lincoln affiliate, while KRVN (880 AM) is a third affiliate that reaches around the state. Join Greg Sharpe (play-by-play), Matt Davison (color and co-hosts Husker Game Day Pregame Show), Lane Grindle (sideline/post-game, co-hosts Husker Game Day), Steve Taylor (co-hosts Husker Game Day Show and Big Red Reaction Show) and Matt Coatney (hosts Big Red Reaction Show and helps anchor postgame studio coverage) for all the action. The game can also be heard live on Huskers.com and SIRIUS Satellite Radio.

**COACHES:** Nebraska: Bo Pelini (65-25 overall, 37-15 in the Big Ten, seven seasons). Purdue: Darrell Hazell (4-16 overall, 1-11 in the Big Ten, two seasons).

**SERIES:** Tied 1-1

## PURDUE FAST FACTS

**Location:** West Lafayette, Ind.

**Enrollment:** 39,788

**All-Time Football Record:** 596-531-48

**All-Time Big Ten Record:** 321-371-32

**Post-Season Record:** 9-8

**Consensus All-Americans:** 20

**First-Team All-Big Ten Selections:** 169

**Lettermen Returning/Lost:** 41/24

**Starters Returning/Lost:** 19/6

**Offensive Formation:** Pro Style

**Defensive Formation:** Multiple

## DID YOU KNOW?

Purdue has not defeated a ranked team on the road since Oct. 18, 2003 when it knocked off No. 14 Wisconsin, 26-23.

## 2014 SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Result
Aug. 30	Western Michigan	W, 43-34
Sept. 6	Central Michigan	L, 17-38
Sept. 13	Notre Dame	L, 14-30*
Sept. 20	Southern Illinois	W, 35-13
Sept. 27	Iowa	L, 10-24
Oct. 4	@ Illinois	W, 38-27
Oct. 11	Michigan State	L, 31-45
Oct. 18	@ Minnesota	L, 38-39
Nov. 1	@ Nebraska	
Nov. 8	Wisconsin	
Nov. 22	Northwestern	
Nov. 29	@ Indiana	



## Scouting Report



In May, Mostert won the 100 and 200-meter titles at the Big Ten Outdoor Championships. Earlier in the year, he won the 60 and 200-meter titles at the league's indoor meet.

In the one-point loss at Minnesota, Mostert, who ran a 10.15 in the 100 to qualify for the NCAA Championships, rushed the ball five times for 115 yards, including a 42-yard second quarter touchdown run and a 69-yard run in the third quarter, which set up another score. He also returned six kickoffs for a 23-yard average, caught a couple passes and returned a punt.

### O-LINE YOUNG, BUT IMPROVED

The Boilermakers' offensive line entered the season as one of the most inexperienced in college football, returning just 30 total starts. Purdue's line features four sophomores and two juniors. The Boilermakers rushed for 129 yards against Michigan State, the nation's fifth-ranked rushing defense, and ran for 298 against Minnesota and 349 against Illinois.

### BABY BOILERS

Purdue ranks seventh in the country in terms of most underclassmen in fall training camps. Of the Boilermakers' 101 players, 70 were sophomores or younger. Purdue's three scholarship quarterbacks are all sophomores or younger. Four of the Boilermakers' top seven receivers this season have at least one year of eligibility remaining.

### REMEMBER WHEN?

#### Nebraska 44, Purdue 7

*Oct. 12, 2013 at West Lafayette, Ind.*

Nebraska enjoyed a 21-0 halftime lead over Purdue, increased it to 30-0 after three quarters and led 44-0 with 50 seconds left in the game. Ameer Abdullah ran for 126 yards and a score, while Terrell Newby ran for 61 yards and Imani Cross added 56 yards and a touchdown. Tommy Armstrong Jr. started for the Huskers because Taylor Martinez was out with turf toe. Armstrong Jr. threw three interceptions and was replaced by Ron Kellogg III, who completed 10-of-13 passes for 141 yards and a score. Nebraska held Purdue to just 32 yards rushing.

### LAST TIME OUT

#### Minnesota 39, Purdue 38

*Oct. 18, 2014 at Minneapolis, Minn.*

Purdue saw a 31-20 halftime lead slip away in the second half and eventually lost a heartbreaker by a point at TCF Bank Stadium.

Minnesota's Ryan Santoso delivered the game-winner with a 52-yard field goal with just under five minutes remaining.

The Boilermakers had difficulty slowing down Gopher running back David Cobb, who ran for 194 yards and a touchdown.

It marked the first time in 23 games under Coach Jerry Kill that the Gophers rallied from a halftime deficit to win.

Purdue sophomore quarterback Austin Appleby threw three first-half touchdown passes, but struggled in the second half, completing just 4-of-10 passes for 18 yards.

Appleby helped the Boilermakers gain 451 total yards, including 298 rushing thanks, in part, to Akeem Hunt's 98 yards on 17 carries.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Cornhusker defensive end Randy Gregory originally committed to Purdue out of Hamilton Southeastern High School in Fishers, Ind.

- Purdue freshman defensive end Gelen Robinson is the son of former Boilermaker All-American Glenn Robinson, the overall No. 1 pick in the 1994 NBA Draft. His brother, Glenn Robinson III, was an All-American at Michigan and a second-round draft pick of the Minnesota Timberwolves in last June's NBA Draft.

- New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees led the Boilermakers to their last Big Ten championship in 2000 and an appearance in the Rose Bowl that season. Brees finished third in the Heisman Trophy balloting in 2000 after finishing fourth the year prior. No Purdue player has ever won the coveted college football award, but Bob Griese, Leroy Keyes and Mike Phipps all came close finishing second in 1966, 1968 and 1969, respectively.

- Purdue hasn't had a winning Big Ten record since the 2006 season when Joe Tiller was the Boilermakers' head coach. In 12 seasons, Tiller guided Purdue to 10 bowl appearances and amassed an 87-62 overall record, including 53-43 in the Big Ten (1997-2008).

## Coach Darrell Hazen



**Resume:** The second-year Boilermaker head coach is 4-16 overall, 1-11 in the Big Ten so far in

West Lafayette. He came from Purdue after guiding Kent State's program for a couple of seasons where he was 16-10 overall, 12-4 in the Mid-American Conference. In 2012, he led the Flashers to an 11-3 record (8-0 in the MAC) and an appearance in the GoDaddy.com Bowl. Hazell makes \$2 million in guaranteed compensation and signed a six-year contract in 2012.

## KNOW YOUR FOE

### Austin Appleby, QB, 6-5, 229, So.



Got his first college start in October at Illinois and delivered Coach Darrell Hazell his first Big Ten victory at Purdue. Appleby completed 15-of-20

for 202 yards and a touchdown without an interception against the Illini.

### Raheem Mostert, RB, 5-11, 190, Sr.



Named to the Paul Hornung Award Honor Roll after racking up 274 all-purpose yards and a touchdown against Minnesota. Mostert is the team's second-leading rusher, averaging 6.1 yards per carry and has scored three rushing touchdowns.

### Frankie Williams, S, 5-9, 189, Jr.



Switched to safety in the offseason after playing his first two years at cornerback. He's second on the team with 59 tackles and has a team-high three interceptions and is second with seven pass breakups. Williams is also one of the Big Ten's best punt return men, averaging 17 yards per return.

## 2013 RESULTS

### (1-11 overall, 0-8 Big Ten)

Date	Opponent	Result
Aug. 31	@ Cincinnati	L, 7-42
Sept. 7	Indiana State	W, 20-14
Sept. 14	Notre Dame	L, 24-31
Sept. 21	@ Wisconsin	L, 10-41
Sept. 28	Northern Illinois	L, 24-55
Oct. 12	Nebraska	L, 7-44
Oct. 19	@ Michigan State	L, 0-14
Nov. 2	Ohio State	L, 0-56
Nov. 9	Iowa	L, 14-38
Nov. 16	@ Penn State	L, 21-45
Nov. 23	Illinois	L, 16-20
Nov. 30	@ Indiana	L, 36-56



**BIGTEN BEAT** | COMPILED BY DOUG GRIFFITHS

# Is Michigan's Brady Hoke out after losing to Spartans?



Ameer Abdullah leads the captains out against Rutgers.  
JIMMY RASH/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

Perhaps the final nail went into Michigan head coach Brady Hoke's coffin as his Wolverines lost 35-11 at Michigan State.

Hoke's team was easily handled again by its in-state rival, and Hoke's record against the Spartans fell to a mere 1-3, and his teams have been outscored in those games by a total of 95-43.

In addition, the Wolverine boss is only 4-7 against MSU, Ohio State and Notre Dame.

This season Hoke's Michigan teams have been walloped by the Spartans and Irish, losing those two contests by a combined 66-11.

It seems like a foregone conclusion that Hoke will be gone perhaps before Hoke gets to the regular-season finale against the Buckeyes.

Michigan needs to win three of its final four games to become bowl eligible.

"Hoke won't be coaching in that game," said CBSSports.com said after the Michigan State game. He's a dead coach walking."

Mlive.com added, "His team has gotten wore every year, a process that's almost

week-to-week at this point.

"Can this team be fixed with Hoke as its coach?

"The film doesn't lie.

"And the film looks pretty darn embarrassing right now in Ann Arbor."

Following *Huskers Illustrated* recaps Week Five of football happenings around the Big Ten.

## EAST DIVISION INDIANA HOOSIERS

IU coach Kevin Wilson hasn't had much good news this season, but during his team's second bye week it appears as though he got a little. Junior Jason Spriggs, the team's best offensive lineman, might be available for the Hoosier's upcoming game against Michigan. The offensive tackle was carted off the field against Michigan State.

"He should be good to go," Wilson said.

Spriggs didn't suffer a concussion. Instead he had a muscle issue at the top of his back. Still, Wilson has plenty of issues. No. 1 on his list is trying to generate enough offense to win a game with his team's third-string quarterback as the starter as a result

## EAST DIVISION 2014 Standings

Team	Overall	Conference
Michigan State	7-1	4-0
Ohio State	6-1	3-0
Maryland	5-3	2-2
Rutgers	5-3	1-3
Penn State	4-3	1-3
Michigan	3-5	1-3
Indiana	3-4	0-3

## WEST DIVISION

Team	Overall	Conference
Nebraska	7-1	3-1
Minnesota	6-2	3-1
Iowa	5-2	2-1
Wisconsin	5-2	2-1
Northwestern	3-4	2-2
Purdue	3-5	1-3
Illinois	4-4	1-3

## Oct. 25 Results

Nebraska 42, Rutgers 24  
Illinois 28, Minnesota 24  
Wisconsin 52, Maryland 7  
Michigan State 35, Michigan 11  
Ohio State 31, Penn State 24 (2 OT)  
IDLE: Purdue, Northwestern, Iowa, Indiana

## Nov. 1 Games

Purdue @ Nebraska, 2:30 p.m.  
Maryland @ Penn State 11 a.m.  
Northwestern @ Iowa TBD  
Wisconsin @ Rutgers Noon  
Indiana @ Michigan 3:30 p.m.  
Illinois @ Ohio State 8 p.m.  
IDLE: Michigan State, Minnesota

## Nov. 8 Games

Wisconsin @ Purdue TBD  
Penn State @ Indiana TBD  
Iowa @ Minnesota, TBD  
Michigan @ Northwestern TBD  
Ohio State @ Michigan State, 7 p.m.  
IDLE: Nebraska, Rutgers, Illinois, Maryland  
All times CT

of a slew of injuries at the position.

### MARYLAND TERRAPINS

In five years, the Terrapins hadn't traveled as far west as Madison, and after getting throttled 52-7 by Wisconsin, probably want to stay close to home from now on. The blowout loss raised the question of whether Maryland is ready to compete against the Big Ten's marquee programs. The answer right now is definitely not.

"Give credit to Wisconsin, but we got outcoached," Terrapin coach Randy Edsall said. "We got outplayed and didn't do a real good job. That's on me as a head coach and I am very disappointed."

### MICHIGAN STATE SPARTANS

The Spartans controlled every facet of their game against rival Michigan and beat the Maize and Blue for the sixth time in the last seven games.

MSU running back Jeremy Langford carried the ball 35 times for 177 yards and scored three touchdowns.

Thanks to Langford's efforts, the Spartans have won 14-straight Big Ten games and now will enjoy a week off before hosting Ohio State in a huge game that likely will determine the Big Ten's East Division winner.

### MICHIGAN WOLVERINES

Wolverine quarterback Devin Gardner struggled again, throwing for just 121 yards and completing 13-of-28 passes against Michigan State, but his coach gave him a vote of confidence afterwards.

"I think it's Devin's job right now," Hoke said.

Gardner's 121 yards was a season low and he still hasn't thrown for 200 yards in a game this season. Gardner also threw two interceptions, one of which was returned for a touchdown, to run his season total to 10 on the year. Gardner also lost a fumble.

### RUTGERS SCARLET KNIGHTS

Rutgers coach Kyle Flood drew criticism from his local media for putting quarterback Gary Nova in a position to get hurt right before halftime. NJ.com questioned the decision making of hav-

ing Nova drop back to pass in the last minute of the first half and deep in his own territory.

Nova was hit and hurt his right knee and now Flood hopes his senior quarterback didn't suffer a serious injury. Nova noticeably limped to the team bus.

"I felt like we had to be aggressive to see if we could get some points there at the end of the half," Flood explained.

Rutgers realistically could win seven games this regular season by winning two of its four games (Wisconsin, Indiana, Michigan State and Maryland remain), but it will likely need Nova in the lineup to do so.

### OHIO STATE BUCKEYES

The Buckeyes kept pace with Michigan State in the Big Ten's East Division thanks to a double-overtime victory at Penn State.

Ohio State was outscored 17-0 in the second half, but triumphed thanks to quarterback J.T. Barrett's four-yard touchdown run in the second extra session.

The Buckeyes rushed for 219 yards on 57 carries with Ezekiel Elliott leading the way with 109 yards and a score.

Barrett ran for 75 yards and had a pair of touchdown runs.

### PENN STATE NITTANY LIONS

One has to wonder what's left in Penn State's tank after its gut-wrenching double-overtime home loss to Ohio State. The loss was the Nittany Lions third straight. Penn State managed just 16 yards rushing against the Buckeyes and had to rely solely on the arm of quarterback Christian Hackenberg to move the football. Hackenberg finished with 224 yards passing, completing 31-of-49 aerials, with one touchdown and a pair of interceptions.

### WEST DIVISION

#### ILLINOIS FIGHTING ILLINI

Illinois' first Big Ten home victory couldn't have come at a better time for Coach Tim Beckman, who is under fire.

Beckman's Illini knocked off Minnesota, just a few days after the Chicago

Sun-Times ran a story on possible replacements Illinois should consider to take over for Beckman.

Beckman was doused in Illinois' locker room by Gatorade as his players celebrated just the program's second Big Ten victory in the Beckman era.

Beckman's job security still seems to be in serious jeopardy, but considering his team needs only to win two of its final four games (Ohio State, Iowa, Penn State and Northwestern remain), there might be a glimmer of hope that he'll be coaching in Champaign in 2015.

### IOWA HAWKEYES

Iowa will be without one of its starting linebackers for at least one game after Reggie Spearman was charged with operating while intoxicated last weekend.

He was driving a moped with an expired registration and failed a field sobriety test with a measured blood alcohol content of .087.

"I was disappointed to hear of the charges against Reggie," Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz said. "Reggie will face a minimum one-game suspension, as well as other consequences within the program."

### MINNESOTA GOLDEN GOPHERS

Gopher running back David Cobb was a big reason why Jerry Kill's club was off to a 3-0 start in the Big Ten and 6-1 overall, but it was his key turnover at Illinois that proved to be the difference.

Cobb was stripped of the ball by Illini linebacker T.J. Neal. Cornerback V'Angelo Bentley scooped up the ball and carried it into the end zone with 6:33 to play in what proved to be the game-winning score. Cobb finished with 118 yards rushing on 22 carries and two touchdowns. This was a game Minnesota desperately needed if it wanted to win the West Division.

Now the Gophers' road to the title will get much tougher with dates against Iowa, Ohio State, Nebraska and Wisconsin looming.

### NORTHWESTERN WILDCATS

The news coming out of the North-



# How Nebraska's 2014 Opponents Fared?



**FLORIDA ATLANTIC**  
Result: L, Marshall 35-16  
Up Next: UAB  
Current Record: 3-5



**MCNEESE STATE**  
Result: W, Incarnate Word 41-21  
Up Next: Northwestern State  
Record: 5-2



**FRESNO STATE**  
Result: L, Boise State 37-27  
Up Next: Wyoming  
Record: 3-5



**MIAMI**  
Result: W, Virginia Tech 30-6  
Up Next: North Carolina  
Record: 5-3



**ILLINOIS**  
Result: W, Minnesota 28-24  
Up Next: Ohio State  
Current Record: 4-4



**MICHIGAN STATE**  
Result: W, Michigan 35-11  
Up Next: Ohio State  
Record: 7-1



**NORTHWESTERN**  
Result: L, Nebraska 38-17  
Up Next: Iowa  
Record: 3-4



**RUTGERS**  
Result: L, Nebraska 42-24  
Up Next: Wisconsin  
Record: 5-3



**PURDUE**  
Result: L, Minnesota 39-38  
Up Next: Nebraska  
Current Record: 3-5



**WISCONSIN**  
Result: W, Maryland 52-7  
Up Next: Rutgers  
Record: 5-2



**MINNESOTA**  
Result: L, Illinois 28-24  
Up Next: Iowa  
Record: 6-2



**IOWA**  
Result: L, Maryland 38-31  
Up Next: Northwestern  
Record: 5-2

## WEST



## BIG TEN

## EAST



western camp during the team's bye week centered around cornerback Dwight White's decision not to play football.

After experiencing abdominal pain in June, White found out he was born with one kidney. He continued to play, but after suffering a kidney contusion in the final days before this season started, White opted to end his playing career.

Last season White appeared in every game and made six starts. He didn't play in any games this year. The Big Ten approved White as a medical non-counter in the 2015-16 academic year, allowing him to remain on scholarship without counting against the team's limit of 85.

### PURDUE BOILERMAKERS

The Boilermakers spent part of their bye week focusing on their quarterbacks throwing the ball down field more.

Quarterback Austin Appleby has mainly been asked to throw shorter pass-

es and hoping receivers turn them into bigger gains.

"We have to be able to spread some people out and get some guys on an island against defenders," Boilermaker coach Darrell Hazell said. "Since the Notre Dame game, I thought our offense continually has gotten better doing that and taking advantage of some looks they've been able to get."

### WISCONSIN BADGERS

Wisconsin looked like its old self in crushing Maryland. The Badgers out-gained the visitors 527-175 and held the Terrapins to just three yards rushing in the first half.

Wisconsin's defense held Maryland to without a first down from the middle of the second quarter to its final drive late in the fourth quarter.

Meanwhile the Badger offense averaged 7.3 yards per play.



**The World's Best Licorice**  
from the **Licorice Ladies** at

Visit us in Lincoln's  
Haymarket District for

**FREE  
SAMPLES**

Entrance on 8th Street  
between P & Q



**Black Licorice from 13 Countries • Bulk, Baskets and Samplers • Nationwide Delivery**

803 Q Street, Suite 300 • Lincoln, NE 68508 • 402-488-2230 • 1-800-LICORICE (542-6742)

**www.licoriceinternational.com**



# Huskers Illustrated's Projected Nebraska Depth Chart

## DEFENSE

### P/Holder

Sam Foltz  
Johnny Stanton

### FS

Nate Gerry  
Kieron Williams

### SS

Corey Cooper  
D.J. Singleton

### NICKEL

Byerson Cockrell  
Josh Kalu

### LS

Josh Faulkenberry  
Paul Kelly

### WILL

Zaire Anderson  
Courtney Love

### MIKE

Trevor Roach  
Josh Banderas

### BUCK

David Santos  
Marcus Newby

### PR

DeMornay Pierson-El  
Kenny Bell

### CB

Daniel Davie  
Josh Kalu

### WDE

Randy Gregory  
Jack Gangwish

### NT

Vincent Valentine  
Kevin Maurice

### DT

Maliek Collins  
Kevin Williams

### SDE

Greg McMullen  
AJ Natter

### CB

Josh Mitchell  
Boaz Joseph

### WRX

Kenny Bell  
Taariq Allen

### LT

Alex Lewis  
Matt Finnin

### LG

Jake Cotton  
Chongo Kondolo

### C

Mark Pelini  
Ryne Reeves

### RG

Mike Moudy  
Chongo Kondolo

### RT

Zach Sterup  
Givens Price

### TE

Sam Cotton  
Trey Foster

### WRZ

Alonzo Moore  
Brandon Reilly

### WRA

Jordan Westerkamp  
Lane Hovey

### KOS

Drew Brown  
Spencer Lindsay

### QB

Tommy Armstrong Jr.  
Ryker Fyfe

### IB

Ameer Abdullah  
Imani Cross

### KR

Kenny Bell  
Alonzo Moore

### PK

Drew Brown  
Spencer Lindsay

### FB

Andy Janovich  
Mitch McCann

## OFFENSE



**Darren Ivy**  
(6-1, 29-27)



**Mike Schaefer**  
(5-2, 40-16)



**Michael Bruntz**  
(6-1, 35-21)



**Bob Hamar**  
(6-1, 33-23)



**Terry Douglass**  
(5-2, 35-21)



**Doug Griffiths**  
(5-2, 37-19)



**Lanny Holstein**  
(6-1, 38-18)

Last Week, Season

Nebraska vs Purdue	NU 42-17	NU 52-21	NU 41-24	NU 45-17	NU 48-17	NU 35-10	NU 49-17
Ole Miss vs. Auburn	Auburn	Auburn	Auburn	Ole Miss	Auburn	Auburn	Auburn
Northwestern vs. Iowa	Iowa	Northwestern	Iowa	Iowa	Iowa	Iowa	Iowa
Kansas State vs. Oklahoma State	Kansas State	Kansas State	Kansas State	Kansas State	Oklahoma State	Kansas State	Kansas State
TCU vs. West Virginia	TCU	TCU	TCU	TCU	West Virginia	West Virginia	West Virginia
Utah vs. Arizona State	ASU	Utah	Arizona State	Arizona State	Arizona State	Arizona State	Utah
Arizona vs. UCLA	Arizona	Arizona	UCLA	Arizona	UCLA	UCLA	Arizona



# Catching up with **LARRY WACHHOLTZ**

Defensive Back 1964-66

By Butch Rasmussen/Huskers Illustrated

Larry Wachholtz tackles  
Gale Sayers during the  
1964 game against KU.



University of Nebraska Archives & Special Collections

It's been 48 years since Larry Wachholtz wore the scarlet and cream as a Husker athlete. No, not just an athlete but an All-America defensive back. Wachholtz led the nation in punt returns until the last game of the 1966 season before finishing second by seven yards to a punt return specialist from Notre Dame.

Wachholtz led the nation in punt returns until the last game of the 1966 season before finishing second by 7 yards to a punt return specialist from Notre Dame.

Larry was the real deal and nearly 50 years later his expertise on the Memorial Stadium turf in Lincoln and the vivid number 36 on his back still holds a sacred place in this writer's memory.

Prior to his stardom as a Nebraska Cornhusker Larry performed his roll as a silky smooth quarterback of the 1962 North Platte High School football team as other young extraordinary high school athletes including future Husker fullback Pete Tatman, parlayed their collective skills into the honor of winning the Class A state high school football championship.

Larry and Pete . . . Pete and Larry . . . Through the decade of the 60s in our town

if you wanted to have a conversation on high school or Cornhusker sports, you seldom mentioned one of these names without the other.

Wachholtz (Wah-holtz) and Tatman were versatile high school athletes, football, basketball, and track and Wachholtz added Legion baseball to his repertoire in the summer.

As the story goes, Husker coaches never saw Wachholtz play football but a couple of them watched him play in the state basketball tournament in Lincoln. Although North Platte lost the game the coaches were impressed that Wachholtz "fought every second".

"He was a real hustler and looked like the best competitor we'd seen", according to Husker defensive backfield coach, Jim Ross

So in the fall of 1963 Wachholtz and

Tatman answered the call of a future legendary Husker football coach named Bob Devaney to come to Lincoln to play for the Huskers.

Wachholtz was soon starting as a defensive back and Tatman became a hard charging fullback for Devaney.

Wachholtz and Tatman played along side a small kid from the Cleveland area of Ohio named Frank Solich.

Wachholtz, Tatman and Solich ultimately became big time contributors to the Husker's success and helped Devaney secure the foundation for another great football program in Lincoln that he would lead for 11 seasons while claiming two national championships.

Tatman and Wachholtz brought the pride of the Huskers to North Platte on a day in late October, 1965 when Tatman scored two touchdowns and Wachholtz kicked an extra point and the game winning field goal late in the game to whip the Missouri Tigers in their stadium 16-14.

The two "kids" from North Platte accounted for all 16 points in that game and pride in their hometown swelled with their accomplishment. Both were juniors at the time.

One of the highlights of the 1966 season for Wachholtz was a 72-yard punt return for a touchdown against Utah State in Lincoln.

He finished his playing days with 11 career interceptions. Tatman authored 11 career touchdowns.

De'Mornay Pierson-El is an exciting young Husker, a true freshman from Alexandria, Virginia. His specialty is returning punts and at this writing he has two punt return touchdowns this season.

When asked about Pierson-El, Wachholtz, Husker punt return specialist of a half century ago, had this to say: "Pierson-El has demonstrated he can catch the ball and do it in traffic. We've seen him do it in several different situations. I'm impressed with the guy and he seems to be the cata-

lyst for correcting the problem Husker special teams have experienced in recent years.

"It takes more than one guy to have a successful punt return plan because it depends on good blocking. The player returning punts has several decisions to make. Will the wind be a factor, how about the sun, which side of the 10-yard line will I be on when I catch the ball, should I call for a fair catch or not? So far the special teams unit assigned to returning punts has kept Pierson-El pretty clean which gives him a chance to catch the ball before he's in traffic which then gives him a chance for a good return."

Wachholtz says punt returns are the most suicidal job in football and Pierson-El seems to have it all when it comes to being successful on good punt returns.

"He's pretty amazing for a true freshman," Wachholtz said. "This guy has good speed and once he catches the ball he gets motoring".

## Advertising Section

# HUSKERS IN BUSINESS

## KOLLMORGEN & ASSOCIATES

Bringing the Marketplace to you!

Karl Kollmorgen • Kyle Kollmorgen  
Licensed Consultant • PPACA Certified

cooportunity  
HEALTH SM

NEBRASKA  
An Independent Licensee of the  
Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

UnitedHealthcare

COVENTRY  
Health Care  
An Aetna Company

aetna SM

ASSURANT Health

Starmark

Do you know what Metallic health insurance plans are?

Do you know what you will be penalized by the IRS for not having health insurance?

Do you know if you will benefit from the Exchange/ Marketplace?

Do you know where you can get health coverage?

Do you know if you qualify for subsidies that the government will provide to purchase health

Contact our office for help with your health insurance needs.

Phone number:  
402.434.2580

Email:  
sales@kollmorgenassoc.com



## Look, Feel, Function BETTER

Owner Troy Watchorn, a former Husker Blackshirt, believes in helping clients fuse the mental, nutritional and physical components of wellness.

year-round speed/strength camps for all athletes

small group, large group and 1-on-1 training



t7fitness.com



# IN THE RedZone

## Maine native Greenlaw rushed to success



Willie Greenlaw (47) scores an 11-yard touch-down against Colorado in 1954. Greenlaw helped NU win for the first time ever in Boulder and the 20-6 victory ended a nine-game winning streak by the Buffaloes.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

**By Kalani Simpson**

*Huskers Illustrated*

You may or may not have done well in geography in school, but now we're giving you another chance. Husker geography. That's right – this is the perfect subject for tail-gate arguments, bar bets or radio drive-time talk shows (you're welcome).

It's time to answer that age-old question: Who is the best all-time Husker from each state? In the last issue, *Huskers Illustrated* looked at the best players to come out of Kansas.

This week we move on to Maine and North Carolina.

**Husker  
Geography  
Part 22**

### MAINE

**Willie Greenlaw**

*HB, 1954-56*

We're missing Maine. Where is the best player out of Maine? Huskers Illustrated editor Darren Ivy said.

Maine? There are no Huskers out of Maine, I said. There can't be.

Willie Greenlaw is in the Nebraska Football Hall of Fame! Darren said.

And so he is. Turns out, there were great Huskers from everywhere. Greenlaw wore No. 47 and rushed for more than 1,000 yards in his Husker career, back when that was a very, very big deal. He was versatile – he was a left-handed threat to throw, too. On defense, he once returned an interception 95 yards for a score. He was a go-to guy on the Husker baseball team as well.

A newspaper account at the time said he had a "swift wit and a swift foot." Meaning, he was equally adept at high-light-reel runs and zinging one-liners. He was languishing on the second unit, when the first string kept bogging down, and Greenlaw was pushed into the lime-light, and immediately blossomed. In 1954 he averaged more than seven yards a carry for a Big Red team that earned its first winning record and bowl bid since 1941 – Nebraska's very first Orange Bowl bid.

And he appreciated his time as a fan

favorite: "If you want to go to a place and play football and be liked," he once said, "go to Nebraska."

Last season, the Portland High School football team asked that he come in and give a speech. He's still a legend in Maine.

It's believed he was the first football player from the state of Maine to play in a college bowl game. He later played in front of sold-out crowds for a Maine semi-pro team, still a star, even when he was doing it on the side. He no longer had that Willie Greenlaw speed, a teammate recalled.

But he was still Willie Greenlaw. Husker football fans in the mid-1950s would have known what that meant.

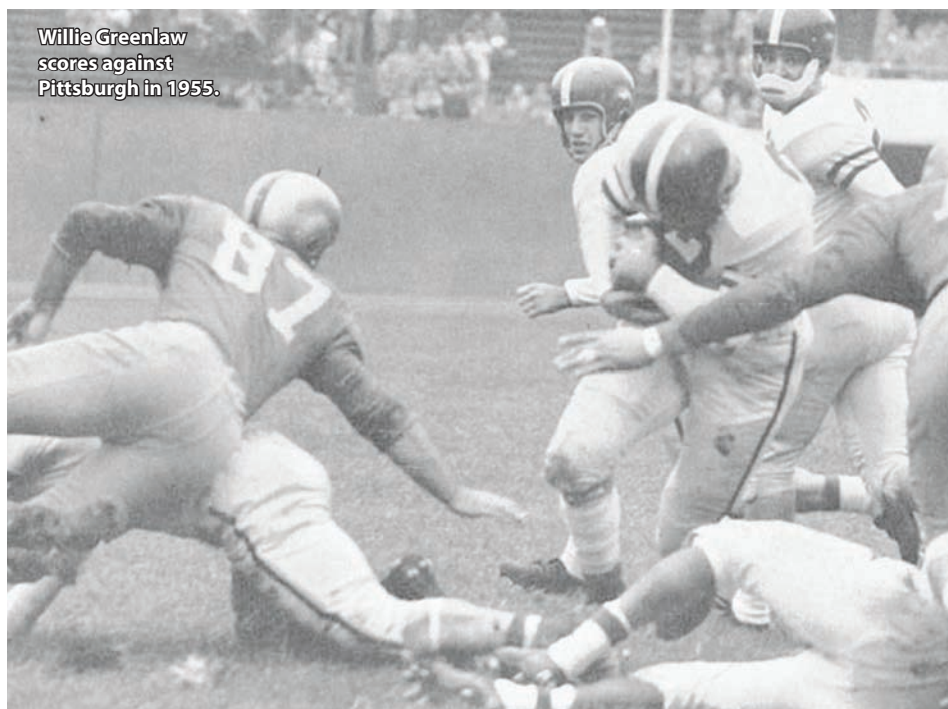
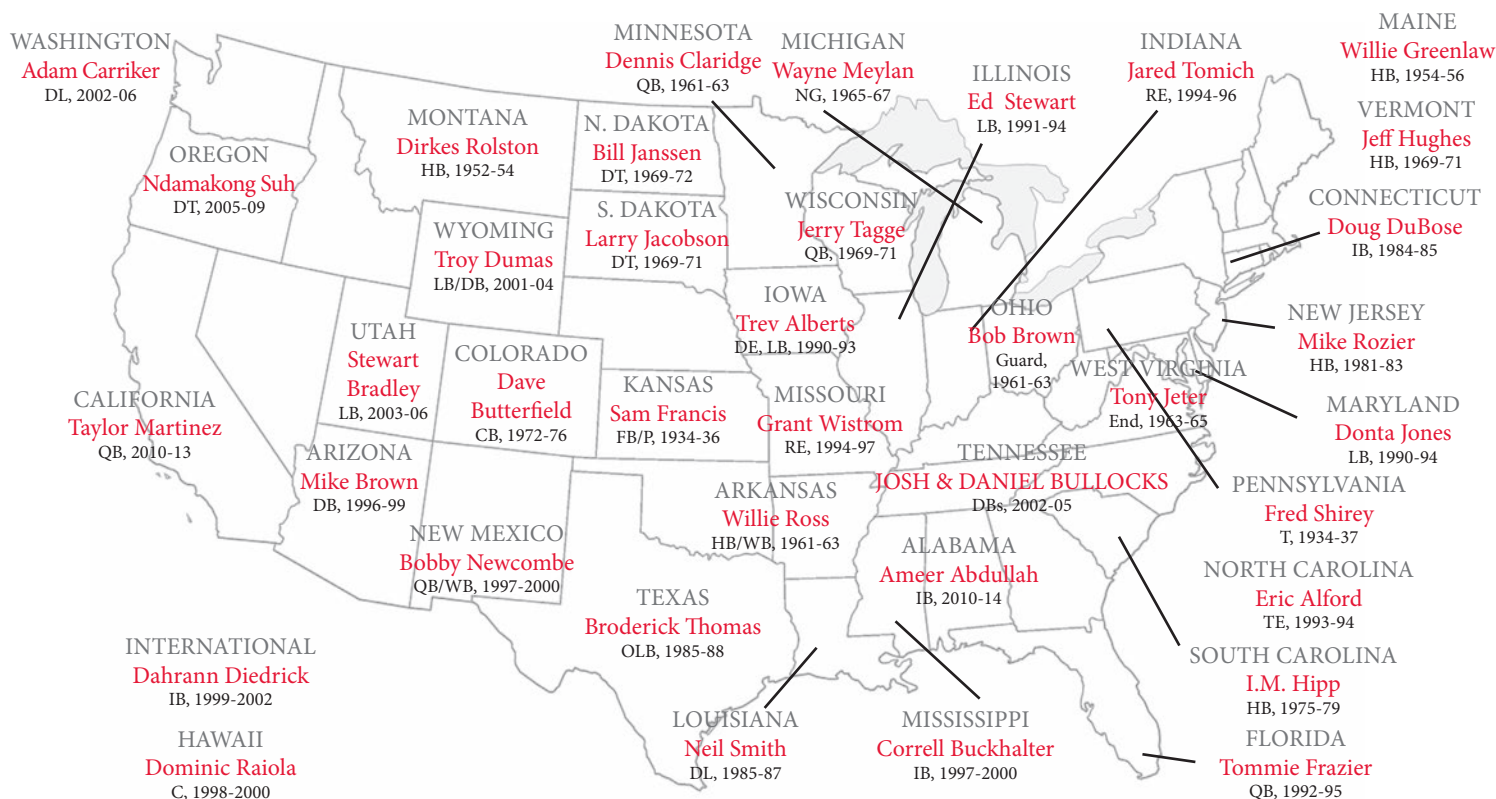
### NORTH CAROLINA

**Eric Alford**

*TE, 1993-94*

Ooh. This one is not good. Alford, an outstanding tight end on a national championship team, is likely the best Husker ever to come out of North Caro-

# All-Time Greatest Huskers From Each State



Willie Greenlaw scores against Pittsburgh in 1955.

## Terry Luck QB, 1974-75

Instead let's talk about Terry Luck, a team captain and good guy, who once came off the bench to direct a comeback win over Florida in the Sugar Bowl. Luck only really got to play as a starter as a senior, and even then was banged up yet again, and gave way to Vince Ferragamo midway through the year. The Huskers went on to a 10-2 mark that season, 1975 – a 10-0 start, and the first 10-win season since the 1971 national championship team.

Luck went undrafted, but had cups of coffee in the NFL and in Canada. He went on to become a respected coach at a variety of levels, coaching in college with legends Hayden Fry and Bill Snyder. Later, he split his duties on the high school team with overseeing a flag football program for young kids at a Christian school. The best Husker ever to come out of North Carolina – a team captain and a good guy.

lina. He was also convicted and sent to prison on charges of child sexual assault. A pause of silence for the victim. And let's move on.



## Nov. 3, 1962

In a game that included more interceptions than pass completions, Missouri spoiled Nebraska's homecoming and gave the Cornhuskers their first loss of the 1962 season with a 16-7 victory at Memorial Stadium. NU's lone score came on Noel Martin's 88-yard interception return for a touchdown, which marked the first points for Nebraska against Missouri in five seasons. The Huskers were plagued by six turnovers, including three interceptions.

## Nov. 4, 1967

Nebraska's defense allowed a mere 82 total yards, including minus-5 yards rushing as the Huskers shut out Iowa State in Lincoln. NU opened the scoring with a 23-yard Bill Bomberger field goal and didn't score again until Frank Patrick scored on a 1-yard TD run in the third quarter and Frank Avolio gave the Huskers their final points of the day when he tackled Cyclone ball-carrier Ben King in the end zone for a safety. Dick Davis rushed for 87 yards and Frank Patrick passed for 111 yards to lead the Big Red.

## Nov. 5, 1977

Subbing for an injured I.M. Hipp, Rick Berns rushed 21 times for 81 yards and two TDs and No. 11-ranked Nebraska used a sturdy defensive performance to post a 21-10 road victory at Missouri. Berns scored on 1-yard runs in the first and fourth quarters and Billy Todd added field goals of 37, 27 and 42 for the Huskers, who were plagued by red-zone miscues. Monster back Jim Pillen led NU's defense, intercepting a pass with seven minutes to play to help set up the Huskers' final score.

## Nov. 6, 1982

With a 37-yard fourth-quarter run, I-back Mike Rozier broke the 32-year-old single-season rushing record set of 1,342 yards set by Bobby Reynolds as No. 6 Nebraska posted a 48-10 home victory over Oklahoma State. Rozier scored four TDs and finished with 251 yards rushing, surpassing the record in his ninth game of the season – the same amount of games Reynolds had played in while setting the mark in 1950. The Husker defense limited Ernest Anderson, who went on to win the NCAA rushing title with an average of 170.6 yards per game, to just 68 yards rushing on 15 attempts.

## Nov. 7, 1987

Second-ranked Nebraska piled up 666 yards of total offense and built a 28-0 halftime lead on the way to a 42-3 victory over Iowa State at Memorial Stadium. The offensive output ranked No. 8 in Husker history at the time. NU I-back Keith Jones rushed for a career-high 240 yards on just 15 carries, scoring on runs of 27 and 69 yards as Nebraska finished with 604 yards rushing on 70 attempts.

## Nov. 8, 1997

With a single reception, Matt Davison secured his place in Nebraska football history as the freshman wide receiver hauled in the game-tying touchdown pass – after the ball had glanced off teammate Shevin Wiggins – for a score in the closing seconds of regulation and the Huskers went on to a dramatic 45-38 overtime victory at Missouri.

Trailing 38-31 with five seconds to play, Nebraska quarterback Scott Frost fired a do-or-die pass on a slant play to Wiggins. But as fate would have it, Davison was the one who ended up with the football and a piece of Cornhusker history that kept NU's national championship hopes alive.

"I dove and I had my hands out in front of me, but the ball was just a couple inches from the ground," Davison said. "A couple inches from no national championship, I guess."

Davison helped No. 1-ranked Nebraska avoid an upset bid by the Tigers that likely would have taken the Huskers out of the national title picture for good. His scoring reception capped a remarkable 10-play, 67-yard drive that NU had to have to remain unbeaten.

"The last two minutes were just kind of blur for me right now. I just remember going over to the sidelines and having everybody be so happy," Davison said. "I'm just glad it happened for all the older guys on the team because they really got us to that point – I didn't really do much until that last play."

## Nov. 9, 2002

Quarterback Jammal Lord became the 18th player in NCAA history to rush and pass for 1,000 yards in a season as Nebraska posted a 45-7 homecoming victory over Kansas. The Huskers rolled up 351 yards rushing during their 34th-consecutive victory over the Jayhawks as I-backs David Horne (122 yards) and Dahrran Diedrick (107 yards) both topped the 100-yard mark on the ground.



# Coaches Corner

*with Darin Erstad*  
*Head Men's Baseball Coach*



Huskers Illustrated reporter Lanny Holstein recently visited with Nebraska baseball coach Darin Erstad, who is in his fourth season as the head coach of the Huskers. Nebraska recently completed a three-game intrasquad series at Haymarket Park with the Red Team taking the final game and series with a 5-4 win. The team played in Halloween costumes. The Huskers begin the regular season on Feb. 13 against UNLV at Las Vegas, Nevada.

**HI:** How much does fall baseball impact what's going to happen in the spring?

**DE:** The most important thing was, having a new coach come in so late in the school year, to put in new terminology from a base running standpoint, different signs, the way we go about bunt defense. It's not huge changes, but it's different words. We really took it slow this fall to get all that stuff in.

**HI:** With the number of young guys you have on this team, was there a lot of basic teaching that needed to be done?

**DE:** There was a lot of baseball 101 going on, absolutely. It seemed like there were also a lot of older guys with labs and class conflicts, so they were coming in and out, but at the end of day, we are looking for good effort and attitude in fall, and good energy, which they had. How much does it matter for the spring? I think you pretty much go back to square one.

**HI:** Were there any players that showed up in the fall that you could tell had made a jump since you last saw them?

**DE:** I'm not going to single anybody out, but you see some guys with a little more confidence coming out of summer ball, maybe some guys that didn't get the amount of innings or at bats they were looking for last year. Those guys had some success this summer.

**HI:** You have a lot of spots open on the infield. Any idea what will happen there?

**DE:** We try a lot of different combinations. I have an idea of how it's going to work, but at the end of the day, it's on thing to perform in the fall. We are going to have to see it in the spring. They are all working exceptionally hard and we might have some different matchups going against lefties or righties. Who knows?

**HI:** Have you met with new strength and conditioning coach Boyd Epley?

**DE:** We've sat down and gone over the plan. He's just picking the brains of everybody from a baseball-specific standpoint. I'm real happy with the direction he's going.

## This Week

# N

## Husker Athletics

**Friday, Oct. 31**

### *Men's Tennis*

Big Ten Singles Championships in Minneapolis

### *Women's Soccer*

Iowa at Nebraska Soccer Field at 3:30 p.m.

### *Wrestling*

Coaches Clinic/Intrasquad Meet at Devaney Center

### *Women's Volleyball*

Rutgers at Piscataway, N.J. at 6 p.m.

**Saturday, Nov. 1**

### *Women's Volleyball*

Maryland at College Park, Maryland. at 6 p.m.

### *Men's Tennis*

Big Ten Singles Championships in Minneapolis

### *Football*

Purdue at Memorial Stadium

### *Wrestling*

NWCA Wrestling Classic at Philadelphia, Pa.

### *Women's Rifle*

Memphis at Memphis, Tenn.

### *Women's Swimming & Diving*

South Dakota State Invite at Brookings, S.D.

**Sunday, Nov. 2**

### *Men's Tennis*

Big Ten Singles Championships in Minneapolis

### *Women's Rifle*

Ohio State at Memphis, Tenn.

### *Men's & Women's Cross Country*

Big Ten Championships at Iowa City, Iowa

### *Women's Basketball*

Wayne State (Exhibition) at Pinnacle Bank Arena

**Wednesday, Nov. 5**

### *Women's Volleyball*

Purdue at Bob Devaney Sports Center

**Thursday, Nov. 6**

### *Men's Basketball*

Southwest Minnesota State (Exhibition) at Pinnacle Bank





## Men's Basketball

# No Longer An Unknown

*Story By* BRIAN ROSENTHAL • *Photo By* MITCH OTTO

The preseason accolades began accumulating in September, weeks before practice officially began.

National publications that spent the spring and summer months analyzing teams from across the country agreed that the Nebraska men's basketball team should be among the top 25 teams.

One college basketball magazine placed Nebraska No. 11 in its preseason rankings and predicted a second-place finish in the Big Ten Conference. Most others said the Huskers would finish fourth in the league, including 27 conference beat writers who voted in an unofficial media poll before Big Ten Media Day.

It's the same group that predicted the Huskers to finish last each of the last two seasons, when they actually finished 10th and fourth, respectively.

"You guys haven't got it right yet," third-year Nebraska coach Tim Miles quipped before a ballroom full of Big Ten reporters.

The audience chuckled, although Miles was correct. And it's why junior guard Terran Petteway said he pays no attention to the lofty praise the Huskers have been receiving in the offseason and preseason.

"I don't believe none of that. That's all B.S., man. I don't read none of that," Petteway said. "It ain't no hype. We got to treat this year just like we treated last year."

That's when Nebraska had an unexpected, premature breakthrough in Miles' second season. The Huskers, thanks to a late-season surge, finished fourth in the Big Ten, went 19-13 overall and played in its first NCAA Tournament since 1998.

Petteway, a first team All-Big Ten selection last season and the conference's leading scorer, is among five returning starters – hence, the high expectations for a team that earned its first preseason Top 25 ranking in the USA Today coaches' poll – No. 21 – since 1992-93, when the Huskers were No. 22.

"Preseason hype is always based on the year before performance, and the guys finished so strong that naturally they're going to get attention because we return a large part of our team," Miles said.

"But every year's different. Last year, we got hot. I don't know that exactly means we were a good team, and I think this year we're out to prove we're a good team."

Case in point: Nebraska blew an 18-point, second-half lead in a loss to Ohio State in the Big Ten Tournament, and came out sluggish in its loss to Baylor to open the NCAA Tournament, leaving the Huskers still searching for their first NCAA Tournament win in program history.

Miles said Nebraska lost its momentum after the disappointing loss to Ohio State and followed with a bad week of practice, leading to an early double-digit deficit against Baylor, a game Nebraska lost 74-60.

"Coach Miles reminded us of that all the time," Petteway said. "We ended the season how we started."

Petteway, who averaged 18.1 points, had an impressive offseason while participating in the Kevin Duran Skills Academy in Washington, D.C., and the Adidas Nation camp in California. He earned rave reviews for his perimeter shooting, which has been a focus area in the offseason, as has been his ball control and decision making.

## 2014-15 Men's Basketball Schedule

Nov. 6, 2014	SW Minnesota (Exh)	Pinnacle Bank Arena	7 p.m.
Nov. 16, 2014	Northern Kentucky	Pinnacle Bank Arena	1 p.m.
Nov. 18, 2014	Central Arkansas	Pinnacle Bank Arena	7 p.m.
Nov. 22, 2014	at Rhode Island	Kingston, R.I.	6 p.m.
Nov. 25, 2014	Nebraska-Omaha	Pinnacle Bank Arena	7 p.m.
Nov. 28, 2014	Tennessee-Martin	Pinnacle Bank Arena	TBA
Dec. 1, 2014	at Florida State	Tallahassee, Fla.	6 p.m.
Dec. 7, 2014	Creighton	Pinnacle Bank Arena	6 p.m.
Dec. 10, 2014	Incarnate Word	Pinnacle Bank Arena	7 p.m.
Dec. 13, 2014	Cincinnati	Pinnacle Bank Arena	8 p.m.
Dec. 22, 2014	at Hawaii	Honolulu, Hawaii	11:59 p.m.
Dec. 23, 2014	Wich. State/Loyola	Honolulu, Hawaii	TBA
Dec. 25, 2014	TBA	Honolulu, Hawaii	TBA
Dec. 31, 2014	Indiana *	Pinnacle Bank Arena	TBA
Jan. 5, 2015	at Iowa *	Iowa City, Iowa	8 p.m.
Jan. 8, 2015	Rutgers *	Pinnacle Bank Arena	8 p.m.
Jan. 11, 2015	Illinois *	Pinnacle Bank Arena	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 15, 2015	at Wisconsin *	Madison, Wisconsin	8 p.m.
Jan. 20, 2015	Minnesota *	Pinnacle Bank Arena	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 24, 2015	Michigan State *	Pinnacle Bank Arena	TBA
Jan. 27, 2015	at Michigan *	Ann Arbor, Mich.	6 p.m.
Jan. 31, 2015	at Minnesota *	Minneapolis, Minn.	5 p.m.
Feb. 3, 2015	Northwestern *	Pinnacle Bank Arena	6:30 p.m.
Feb. 7, 2015	at Penn State *	State College, Penn.	3 p.m.
Feb. 10, 2015	Wisconsin *	Pinnacle Bank Arena	8 p.m.
Feb. 15, 2015	at Purdue *	West Lafayette, Ind.	4:15 p.m.
Feb. 19, 2015	at Maryland *	College Park, Md.	6 p.m.
Feb. 22, 2015	Iowa *	Pinnacle Bank Arena	TBA
Feb. 26, 2015	at Ohio State *	Columbus, Ohio	6 p.m.
March 4, 2015	at Illinois *	Champaign, Ill.	9 p.m.
March 8, 2015	Maryland *	Pinnacle Bank Arena	TBA
March 11, 2015	Big Ten Tournament	Chicago, Ill.	TBA
March 12, 2015	Big Ten Tournament	Chicago, Ill.	TBA
March 13, 2015	Big Ten Tournament	Chicago, Ill.	TBA
March 14, 2015	Big Ten Tournament	Chicago, Ill.	TBA
March 15, 2015	Big Ten Tournament	Chicago, Ill.	TBA
March 17, 2015	NCAA Tournament	TBA	TBA
*	Conference Games		

Junior guard Shavon Shields, who averaged 12.8 points and a team-best 5.8 rebounds, often gets overlooked by Petteway, Miles said, as does junior forward Walter Pitchford, who led Nebraska by shooting 41 percent on three-pointers last season.

Both Shields and Pitchford are poised for big seasons, Miles said. Shields is healthy and shooting with more confidence while assuming more of a leadership role, and Pitchford, who said he's been working on his low-post game, has also improved his perimeter shooting, which was sharp to begin with.

Improvement is expected from sophomore guard Tai Webster, who had a sluggish finish to his true freshman season, when he went scoreless over the Huskers' final five games.

*Continued to pg. 38*

## HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED'S PRESEASON BIG TEN PREDICTIONS

### 1. WISCONSIN

The Badgers return four starters from their Final Four team, including junior Sam Dekker, who's moving to his natural position on the wing and is poised for a big season.

### 2. OHIO STATE

After a rare first-round NCAA Tournament loss last season, Ohio State is counting on Temple fifth-year transfer Anthony Lee to provide a scoring punch inside.

### 3. MICHIGAN STATE

The Spartans, who lose three key starters, must hope Branden Dawson continues his play from the NCAA Tournament, when he averaged 17.5 points.

### 4. NEBRASKA

The breakthrough season under Tim Miles came earlier than expected, and now it's his job to manage expectations with a big target on his team's back.

### 5. MICHIGAN

All five starters from the 2013 Final Four team are gone, and six of this season's 12 roster players are true freshmen, but expectations are still high.

### 6. IOWA

After last season's surprising collapse, the Hawkeyes return a great deal of experience but must regroup with the graduation of Roy Deyvn Marble.

### 7. ILLINOIS

The offseason knee injury to point guard Tracy Abrams hurts, but the Illini have enough experience returning and defensive mindset to eye an upper-half finish.

### 8. MINNESOTA

Minnesota returns four starters from last year's NIT championship team, meaning the Gophers are zoning in on the NCAA Tournament in coach Richard Pitino's second season.

### 9. MARYLAND

One of the Big Ten's two newcomers, the Terrapins are expecting an up-and-down season after five players from last season's rotation transferred out of the program.

### 10. INDIANA

Point guard Yogi Ferrell will vie for Big Ten first-team honors, but the Hoosiers, who didn't make the postseason, still have question marks with their frontcourt.

### 11. PURDUE

After last season's last-place finish in the Big Ten, coach Matt Painter needs 7-foot center A.J. Hammons to meet expectations and have a big year.

### 12. PENN STATE

The Nittany Lions must replace point guard Tim Frazier but return guard D.J. Newbill from a team that lost eight games by five points or fewer.

### 13. NORTHWESTERN

The young Wildcats have six freshmen on the roster but will be a quicker and more athletic team under second-year coach Chris Collins.

### 14. RUTGERS

Guard Myles Mack and forward Kadeem Jack are Big Ten-caliber players, but they haven't much of a supporting on a team that went 12-21 last season.



## Women's Basketball

## Looking for Big Ten repeat

Story By BRIAN ROSENTHAL • Photo By MITCH OTTO

Nebraska women's basketball coach Connie Yori probably doesn't garner much sympathy from her Big Ten Conference coaching colleagues when she voices concerns about youth on her team.

Outsiders only see that Yori, who enters her 13th season with Nebraska, returns four starters from a 26-7 team that finished 12-4 in the Big Ten Conference regular season, won the Big Ten Tournament and advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

Also, look at the Huskers' senior class. Starters Emily Cady, Tear'a Laudermill and Hailie Sample and reserve Brandi Jeffery are aiming to become the first senior class to lead Nebraska to four-consecutive NCAA tournaments.

Overall, the seniors have led the Huskers to their best three-year stretch in program history, compiling a 75-25 record with three NCAA Tournament trips, one Sweet 16 appearance, a Big Ten Tournament title and four games they played for at least a share of a conference championship.

It's hard to feel sorry for that.

"They've been a big part of our success these past few years," Yori said. "They're playing really good basketball. And they're showing great leadership."

So why is Yori, who also returns junior preseason All-Big Ten point guard Rachel Theriot, concerned about youth?

"People say we have four starters back, but then what?" Yori said. "Who else do we have back that has much experience? We don't have a lot after that."

Yori did acknowledge that Jeffery and Allie Havers, a sophomore forward, do return with some game experience. Combined, they averaged 16 minutes per game last season.

But ...

"Other than our four starters that are returning, after that, it's a free-for-all," Yori said. "You've got 10 other kids that are fighting for three to five spots, so the competition, I think, is going to be really great within our own team."

Nebraska must also replace one of the most decorated players in school history in Jordan Hooper, the No. 13 pick in the spring WBNA Draft.

Hooper, last year's Big Ten Player of the Year, set the Nebraska record with 295 career three-pointers and tied the school record with 40 career double-doubles while ranking No. 2 in school history in both points (2,357) and rebounds (1,110).

"Of course losing a player of Jordan's caliber changes who we are,"

Guard Rachel Theriot returns after an All-Big Ten season as a sophomore.



Yori said. "And there was such a focus from our opponents on her, and she was essentially face-guarded in every game."

What this does for us is it changes our spacing on the offensive end. It makes some other players going to have to expand their games that have played a lot for us."

That begins with Seward native Emily Cady, a 6-2 forward who averaged 12.7 points and 9.2 rebounds last season. She enters her senior season with 1,054 points and 787 rebounds, and she's in position to become just the fifth Husker in history with 1,000 points and 1,000 rebounds in her career.

Cady said replacing Hooper's 20.4 points per game from last season will need to be a group effort.

"We're going to need everyone to crash the boards hard, because Hoop got 10-plus boards a game, every game, and she scored an outrageous amount of points," Cady said. "I think it's going to be a team effort to pick up what she left."

Theriot is Nebraska's leading returning scorer, with 14.1 points per game, and also averaged 7.1 assists. Laudermill, a 5-9 guard who earned second-team All-Big Ten honors in her first season as a starter, was ranked No. 24 in the College Sports Madness player rankings

*Continued from pg. 37*

Webster said he regained confidence this summer playing for his native New Zealand national team in the FIBA World Cup competition, where he faced some of the world's top players, including some NBA stars.

"As he's come back in his workouts, that aggressiveness is back, there's no hesitation. He's shooting

better in workouts," Miles said. "I just think when you've been asked to play up for so long, against older guys, especially, that I think that was really good for him."

Miles said he views the 6-foot-4 Webster as a combo guard who will play more off the ball this season, which means either junior Benny Parker or true freshman Tarin Smith will likely start at point

guard. As of mid-October, the 5-9 Parker, known for his spark and defense off the bench last season, had an edge in the competition. But Smith, who lost 12 pounds while battling an illness not long after practice began, will play. Miles said Smith may be Nebraska's most athletic player.

"I like Tarin a lot," Miles said. "He's a really smart kid. He's a

good player and he's going to improve his shot, he's going to improve his physicality. I think that's his biggest part."

Nebraska's other true freshman, 6-10 center Jacob Hammond, is also expected to play, bypassing a redshirt because of the offseason injury to senior forward Leslee Smith, who's recovering from ACL surgery.

for the 2015 WNBA Draft. She averaged 11.8 points and shot 41 percent from the floor.

Sample, a 6-1 forward, was Nebraska's third-best rebounder and had 17 blocked shots, tied second-most on the team.

The leadership from the four starters, and Jeffery off the bench, has been outstanding, Yori said.

"Those guys understand what it takes to win," she said. "They understand the expectations that we have in our program. They're not only great really good leaders by example, but several of them have taken on even a greater vocal leadership role.

"We've always gotten that with Emily Cady. She's been a vocal leader for the last couple of years. Rachel, even though she's a quiet leader, she's really good behind the scenes as a vocal leader. And I think some of our other seniors have taken on a greater role in that area. But in terms of leadership by example, those five don't have a lot of questions from that standpoint. So our young players have great role models on an everyday basis in our practice setting."

Ah, yes. The young players.

Nebraska welcomes seven newcomers – six true freshmen and junior college All-American forward Anya Kalenta – as part of the nation's No. 9-ranked recruiting class, the highest such class in school history.

The freshmen include one of the nation's top point guards, California native Natalie Romeo, and Tennessee's two-time Class 2-AA player of the year, Jasmine Cincore. The class also has all-Washington guard Chandler Smith and Kansas player of the year Kaylee Page.

"A new word I've got to learn is patience. We are super-duper young. We're really, really young," Yori said.

"I think we'll see them progress throughout the season and I think we're going to see different kids at different times contribute for us, and we're going to have to. We'll have to have some of our new players play at least a small role and expand as they get better."

Should the newcomers mold nicely into their respective roles, and the veterans continue their leadership and contributions, Nebraska could eye another NCAA Tournament appearance – and maybe at home.

Pinnacle Bank Arena, which hosted an NCAA Tournament regional last season, could host first- and second-round games should Nebraska be good enough to earn one of the top 16 seeds in the field of 64 teams.

"It would be really cool to get a chance to play an NCAA Tournament game in Lincoln," Cady said. "It would be awesome for our fans and the whole city of Lincoln and state of Nebraska. We were close to doing it last year, and we know we have another chance."

Smith's goal is to return for the second half of the season, although that will depend on his recovery process, which initially was ahead of schedule. It's unclear yet whether Smith, who's already redshirted, could gain a sixth year of eligibility through the NCAA.

That leaves question marks along Nebraska's front line, where senior David Rivers, who played

a critical role during the Huskers' second-half season surge, returns, and where Georgetown graduate transfer Moses Abraham could also vie for a starting job.

The 6-9, 255-pound Abraham has a 7-3 wingspan and is expected to provide a defensive presence while also helping with rebounding. Another newcomer to eye is redshirt freshman wing Nick

## 2014-15 Women's Basketball Schedule

Nov. 2, 2014	Wayne State (Exh)	Pinnacle Bank Arena	2 p.m.
Nov. 9, 2014	Concordia-St. Paul (Exh)	Pinnacle Bank Arena	2 p.m.
Nov. 15, 2014	Pepperdine	Pinnacle Bank Arena	TBA
Nov. 16, 2014	Alcorn State	Pinnacle Bank Arena	5 p.m.
Nov. 19, 2014	at Washington State	Pullman, Wash.	10 p.m.
Nov. 23, 2014	Utah	Bob Devaney Center	1 p.m.
Nov. 28, 2014	at UCLA	Los Angeles, Calif.	3 p.m.
Nov. 30, 2014	Northern Colorado	Pinnacle Bank Arena	2 p.m.
Dec. 3, 2014	Duke	Pinnacle Bank Arena	6:30 p.m.
Dec. 7, 2014	at Alabama	Tuscaloosa, Ala.	2 p.m.
Dec. 11, 2014	at Creighton	Omaha, Neb.	8:05 p.m.
Dec. 13, 2014	Bakersfield	Pinnacle Bank Arena	2 p.m.
Dec. 20, 2014	High Point	Pinnacle Bank Arena	3 p.m.
Dec. 29, 2014	at Minnesota *	Minneapolis, Minn.	8 p.m.
Jan. 3, 2015	Maryland *	Pinnacle Bank Arena	3 p.m.
Jan. 8, 2015	at Michigan State *	East Lansing, Mich.	7:30 p.m.
Jan. 11, 2015	at Illinois *	Champaign, Illinois	2 p.m.
Jan. 15, 2015	Penn State *	Pinnacle Bank Arena	6 p.m.
Jan. 19, 2015	Purdue *	Pinnacle Bank Arena	6 p.m.
Jan. 22, 2015	at Wisconsin *	Madison, Wisconsin	7 p.m.
Jan. 26, 2015	at Iowa *	Iowa City, Iowa	8 p.m.
Jan. 29, 2015	Illinois *	Pinnacle Bank Arena	7 p.m.
Feb. 1, 2015	Michigan *	Pinnacle Bank Arena	2 p.m.
Feb. 5, 2015	at Rutgers *	Piscataway, N.J.	6 p.m.
Feb. 8, 2015	at Maryland *	College Park, MD	3 p.m.
Feb. 12, 2015	Iowa *	Pinnacle Bank Arena	8 p.m.
Feb. 15, 2015	Wisconsin *	Pinnacle Bank Arena	2 p.m.
Feb. 18, 2015	at Northwestern *	Evanston, Illinois	7 p.m.
Feb. 21, 2015	at Indiana *	Bloomington, Ind.	TBA
Feb. 24, 2015	Minnesota *	Pinnacle Bank Arena	8 p.m.
March 1, 2015	Ohio State *	Pinnacle Bank Arena	TBA
March 4, 2015	Big Ten Tournament	Chicago, Ill.	TBA
March 5, 2015	Big Ten Tournament	Chicago, Ill.	TBA
March 6, 2015	Big Ten Tournament	Chicago, Ill.	TBA
March 7, 2015	Big Ten Tournament	Chicago, Ill.	TBA
March 8, 2015	Big Ten Tournament	Chicago, Ill.	TBA
March 20, 2015	NCAA Tournament	TBA	TBA
*	Conference Games		

Fuller, who's turned heads with his three-point shooting in practice. His minutes will likely depend on how he performs defensively and rebounding, two areas of needed improvement. In all, it's a team eager to continue the momentum of last season, when sellout crowds in the first season at Pinnacle Bank Arena helps spur the late-season surge.

"I've had a blast," Mile said. "That's what it's supposed to be like, you know? I'm happy for our guys, I'm happy for our program. It's earned with these guys, but standing there and continuing to elevate is sometimes more difficult than the innocent climb to get where they are now, which is just recognizable but nothing more than that."





NORTHEAST  
OMAHA  
54 miles

## Conroy anchors middle of Husker offense



**SHE MAY NOT LEAD THE HUSKER OFFENSE IN SHOTS OR GOALS, BUT SENIOR FORWARD MAYME CONROY IS STILL AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE NEBRASKA WOMEN'S SOCCER ATTACK.**

As one of the bigger, more physical players on the team, the 5-foot-9 Conroy provides the muscle inside that allows others like leading scorer Jaycie Johnson to do her thing on the outside.

"I'm someone who is in the box that finishes crosses or something, not so much taking people on and scoring that way, but knockdowns and holding the ball up and things like that is what I do," Conroy said.

Conroy and Johnson have combined for 59 shots on goal and 18 goals this season. It's a combination at the front of the Husker attack that works because of melding styles.

"She's obviously quick and can beat players one-on-one and stuff," Conroy said of Johnson. "I'm more of someone who holds the ball up and plays in the air, so it helps to have her over there."

It also helps the outside players to have an inside presence like Conroy who can hold her ground in the middle and make things happen off of crosses and deflections.

"The other attackers, like Caroline (Gray) or Katie (Kraeutner), they are the wingers that like to crash in wide and beat people wide to get the ball in to us," Conroy said. "They like to take people on and get the ball up to us."

Conroy's role in the middle of the Nebraska attack was not a design from the beginning. The Omaha native came in to college from Skutt High School as an accomplished prep player, but the coaching staff wanted to see what it had with her before slotting her into a line-up spot. It didn't take long, however, before Conroy's time came. As a freshman she played in 17 of the team's 18 games, and as a sophomore she was

into the starting lineup, holding her spot every game each of the past two seasons. Her presence in the middle has been a staple of Nebraska soccer since 2012.

"I think sophomore year it just kind of came," Conroy said. "Being a little bit stronger, bigger and taller than the other forwards and Jaycie, that's just kind of how it worked out, I guess."

That size and ability also shows up in the midfield. Ask Conroy about how she grades herself, and she shies away from her offensive numbers.

"Aerial play, crosses, and that kind of stuff is important," she said. "Obviously if you are an attacker, you want to score, but that's not all that it is based off of. Winning balls in the air and defensive plays, forcing people back with double teams is stuff that coach looks at."

Leadership is another element that Conroy believes in and that she's come into with time. Not overtly vocal by nature, she still recognizes that she can make a difference with her teammates far beyond what she does on the field.

"I think it's pretty important," Conroy said. "We have a lot of injuries and there are 11 or 12 freshmen that came in this year, so we have kind of a young team. Leadership is important for the younger girls."

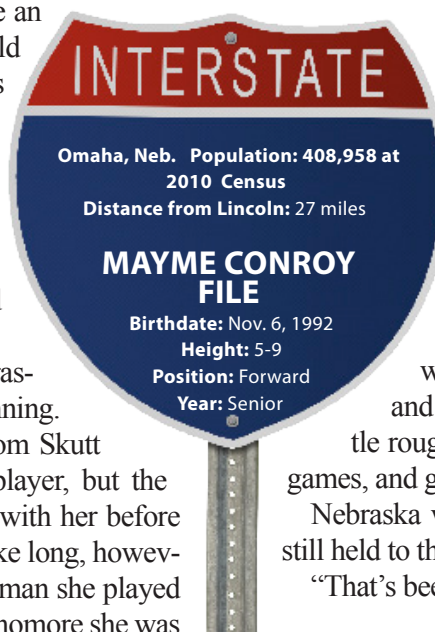
The senior leadership on Nebraska's squad was strong a year ago, but that class graduated, and Conroy is part of crew that's trying to keep the momentum rolling from a team that produced a 19-4-1 record and a berth in the NCAA tournament.

"It was really nice to do that last year, and it felt good obviously, but a lot of it goes to our seniors," Conroy said. "They were a good chunk of the team, all starters and they played a lot. This year has been a little rough, but we have to finish out the rest of the games, and get back to the tournament."

Nebraska was at 7-7-2 as of press time, but Conroy still held to the goal of reaching the NCAA tournament.

"That's been the goal since the beginning," she said.

~ Story by Lanny Holstein





Darren Ivy/Huskers Illustrated

Mayme Conroy attacks a Butler player during a match earlier this fall.

# HOME

REAL ESTATE

Mortgage • Title • Insurance

*Proud To Be Your Hometown Real Estate Company*

**DENNIS SLAMA**



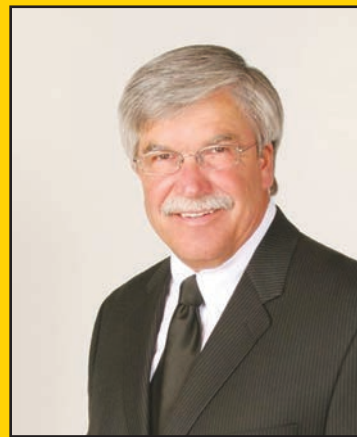
*Real Estate Agent*  
Home Real Estate Pine Lake  
7211 S. 27th St  
Lincoln, NE 68512  
402-560-1173 (C)  
402-436-3232 (O)  
dennis@slamahomes.com  
http://www.slamahomes.com

**MATT ANKERSON**



*Real Estate Agent*  
Home Real Estate Pine Lake  
7211 S. 27th St  
Lincoln, NE 68512  
402-430-2455 (C)  
402-436-3232 (O)  
matt.ankerson@homerealestate.com  
www.homerealestate.com/mattankerson

**JOHN FINK**



*Real Estate Agent*  
Home Real Estate North  
5901 N 27th St  
Lincoln, NE 68512  
402-429-9598 (C)  
402-323-8794 (O)  
john.fink@homerealestate.com  
www.homerealestate.com/johnfink



[www.homerealestate.com](http://www.homerealestate.com)

**MLS.**



## BASEBALL

In a game that saw Bo Pelini (Blake Headley) play third base and a yellow teletubby (Wes Edrington) hit a home run off the left-field foul pole, the Red squad got a walkoff bases-loaded single by the White Power Ranger (Nathan Chunn) in the bottom of the sixth inning to take 5-4 win and a 2-1 series win in the annual Red-White Series.

It was a wacky finale to the annual intrasquad series. Each player donned a Halloween costume, and the baseball was more fun than serious. Pitchers threw half speed and errors plagued both defenses.

On the second pitch of the game Edrington blasted a two-run homer off the left field foul pole to give the Whites a 2-0 lead. They added a run later in the inning for a 3-0 lead, but the Reds would respond with a pair of runs in the bottom of the first to make it a 3-2 game.

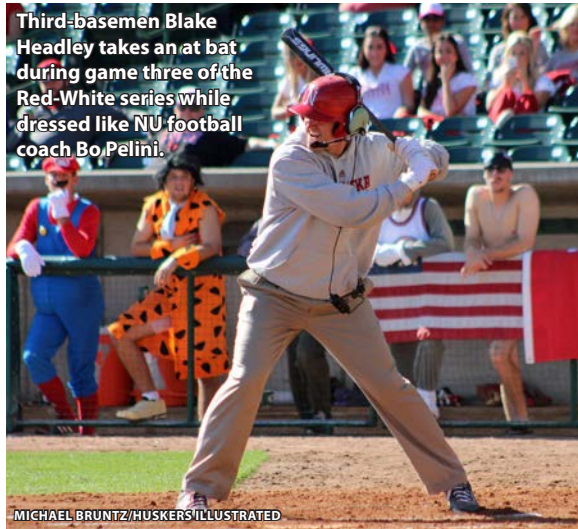
Edrington led off the third and reached on an error. After moving to third base, he scored on an RBI by the Blue Power Ranger (Tanner Lubach).

Trailing 4-2, the Reds cut the deficit to one run in the bottom of the fourth when the Red Power Ranger (Taylor Fish) scored on a fielding error.

With the series on the line and down to their final at bat, the Reds were quickly down to their final out after the Green Power Ranger (Jake Schleppenbach) and the Stay Puff Marshmallow Man (Steven Reveles) were reach retired to start the inning. Headley started a two-out rally when he was hit-by-pitch and then moved into scoring position on a base hit by a farmer (Scott Schreiber). Fish drove in the game-tying run with a base hit and then a piece of bacon (Jake Meyers) was hit-by-pitch to load the bases. With two outs, Chunn



Wes Edrington (in yellow costume) crosses home plate after hitting a home run.



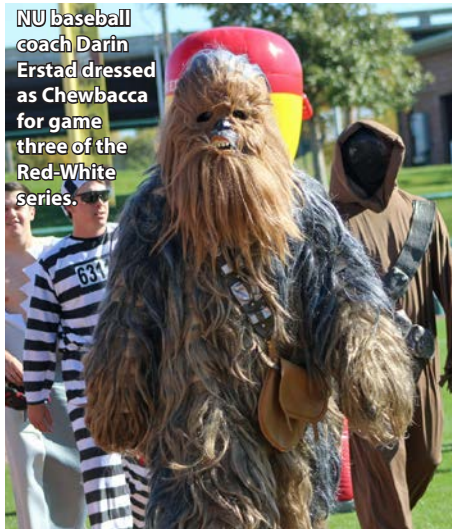
Third-basemen Blake Headley takes an at bat during game three of the Red-White series while dressed like NU football coach Bo Pelini.

MICHAEL BRUNTZ/HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

stepped in and lined a single into left field for the game winning RBI. All that fun finished up the fall season for the Huskers. They now enter winter conditioning in preparation for the 2015 season, which opens with a three-game series against UNLV Feb. 13.

## WOMEN'S SOCCER

The Nebraska soccer team fell to No. 7 Penn State 3-1 this past Friday on the road. Senior Mayme Conroy scored the Huskers' lone goal on the game in the 41st minute, marking her eighth of the season. For the game, Conroy took three shots in 86 minutes of action. Caroline Flynn also



NU baseball coach Darin Erstad dressed as Chewbacca for game three of the Red-White series.

took three shots, while Samantha Areman, Caroline Gray and Sydney Miramontez contributed to the offense with a shot apiece. On the defensive side, goalkeeper Kelly Schatz earned two saves in 90 minutes of work. The Nittany Lions struck first in the fourth minute when Mallory Weber scored off an assist from Emily Hurd. Penn State made the score 2-0 shortly before Conroy's goal when Frannie Crouse knocked it in from a Whitney Church corner kick in the 40th minute. The majority of the second half remained scoreless until Penn State's Haileigh Echard scored in the 90th minute off a Hurd assist. NU

dropped to 7-8-2 on the season, with a 3-6-2 mark in the Big Ten. Nebraska's final home game is Oct. 31 against Iowa.

## WOMEN'S GOLF

Cassie Deeg and Cassidy Stelzmillier tied for ninth place individually to lead the Nebraska women's golf team to a third-place finish at the Rainbow Wahine Invitational this past Thursday. Stelzmillier, a junior from Placerville, Calif., carded Nebraska's best round of the day with her even-par 72 to finish with a season-best three-round total of 222. Stelzmillier's tie for ninth marked her first career top-10 finish and

the fourth top-25 showing of her career.

Deeg, a junior from Hugo, Minn., added a two-over-par 74 to match Stelzmler's tournament total of 222. It marked Deeg's seventh career top-10 finish, including her third of Nebraska's 2014 fall campaign. Nebraska's third junior, Morgan Smejkal from Columbus, Neb., pitched in a final-round 78 to register a career-best three-round total of 224 to tie her career best by tying for 13th in the 82-player field. It was Smejkal's third career top-25 finish.

Sophomore Jordan Chael notched Nebraska's third-best individual score of the day with her third consecutive 77 to finish in a tie for 28th at 231. Freshmen Emily Gillman and Audrey Judd rounded out the Husker contingent in Hawaii. Gillman, who played as an individual outside the NU lineup, tied for 44th at 235, while Judd tied for 63rd at 243.

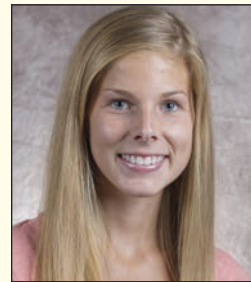
## MEN'S GOLF

The Nebraska men's golf team closed its fall campaign this past Tuesday by firing its best score of the season (290) en route to a 12th-place finish at the Herb Wimberly Intercollegiate. The Huskers finished with a 37-over-par 889 total at NMSU Golf Course. On Monday, NU opened with a 293 before posting 306 in the second round. Senior Mike Siwa notched his best finish of the season in three starts with a tie for 30th. Playing as an individual outside of the Nebraska lineup, Siwa carded 1-over-par 72 in Tuesday's final round to produce a 54-hole total of 4-over-par 217. On Monday, the Omaha, Neb., native shot 74 and 71. Josh Reinertson tied for 48th at 8-over-par 221.

# 10 questions

with Anna Peer

Sophomore Cross Country Runner



## 1 How do you feel like the season has gone to this point?

AP: I've had a really good season so far. I worked hard this summer and set some goal going into the season, had some expectations, and seeing my summer training pay off when I'm racing is really great. I'm having a lot of fun racing and spending time with the team.

## 3 Do you have a game plan or a strategy that you use during the race?

AP: I just kind of tell myself that I have to get off the line, get with that front pack and kind of stick with them. Then I just have to stay relaxed and controlled throughout the race.

## 4 You talk about having great teammates. Who are those people?

AP: I would say the funniest person on our team is Katrina (Santiago). She's a freshman from Miami, Florida, and she is a character. If you just spend five minutes talking to her, I guarantee she will make you laugh. Everything she says is funny. It's a great time with her.

## 5 Do you take pride in the endurance aspect of XC?

AP: Yeah, I definitely do. Other athletes on the team who do different events or other athletes in other sports, they will be like, "Hey, Anna, how many miles did you run today?" and I will be like, "I only did 10 miles today," and they're like, "Only!" It's definitely cool to be able to say that you ran a 15-mile run.

## 7 Do you ever hit a wall in those long runs?

AP: Yes. You get to a point where it's hard, and you just have to keep going because you can't stop. Usually in races where you hit that wall, you have to keep going because that's what racing is. It's about pushing your limits and seeing what you can do beyond what's comfortable for you.

## 8 Do you have a favorite course?

AP: Well, we haven't run there yet, but I'm from Iowa and I actually ran at the Big Ten Championship course in high school, and I like that course. I like that I've ran it before and that I know it more than some people do. I like that it's going to be a fast course, and you can run a fast time.

## 9 What kind of a diet are you on? I assume you can burn a lot of calories.

AP: Yeah. Basically, we can eat whatever we want. I'm running 75 miles a week, so you can eat whatever you want. I mean, obviously you have to get in the right foods and everything, your protein, carbs, fruits and vegetables, stuff like that, but eating ice cream isn't going to kill you at all which is a perk of running, I would say. If you ask my roommates, they would tell you that I have a huge sweet tooth. I do enjoy my ice cream.

## 2 What do you do to make running fun?

AP: To make it fun, you have to have good teammates that make you laugh. You just have to make friends with the pain because it's going to hurt no matter what, so if you go along with it and use the pain to push you even harder.

## 6 What are your expectations with the Big Ten Championships coming up?

AP: I definitely want to improve upon my place from last year. I was 50th last year, and as a freshman, that was pretty good, but seeing as how well I've done this year, I think I can do much better than that. I'm not sure what place I can be, but in my mind I can be top 30.

## 10 What kind of shoes do you wear?

AP: I wear the Adidas Boost. I just kind of went with what the school provides us with. In high school, I ran in Asics, and transitioning to these shoes hasn't been a problem at all. I love them a lot.

~As interviewed by Huskers Illustrated's Lanny Holstein





## Pollmiller tries to settle in as **Senior Setter**

Story By Bob Hamar • Photo by Joe Mixan

**JOHN COOK HAD A TOUGH DECISION TO MAKE BEFORE HIS HUSKER VOLLEYBALL SEASON STARTED.**

Should he run a 6-2 offense with both Mary Pollmiller and Kelly Hunter alternating at setter? Or should he pick one and go with her and leave the other one – one of the best

players on the team – sitting on the sidelines?

“I don’t know,” Cook said. “They’re so athletic. It’s like taking a racehorse and making them a plow horse, so I don’t know.”

Cook was asked how tough it is to pick between the two setters.

“It’s brutal,” he said.

Cook came up with a solution. Pollmiller, a senior captain, would run the team as the one and only setter. Hunter, a sophomore, would redshirt and still have three seasons of eligibility left after Pollmiller is done.

So it’s Pollmiller’s team and the transfer from Tennessee has been doing every-

thing she could to make this season a success. Sometimes, Cook said earlier this season, she was trying too hard.

“She’s trying to do too much right now and trying to carry this team as a setter,” Cook said. “The analogy would be like a quarterback trying to be a running back, a thrower and then try to play

## 2014 Nebraska Volleyball Schedule

Aug. 23, 2014	Red-White Game	Devaney Center	White 3-1
AVCA Showcase			
Aug. 29, 2014	Florida State	Devaney Center	L, 3-1 (0-1)
Aug. 31, 2014	Stanford	Devaney Center	L, 3-0 (0-2)
Flyer-Raider Invite			
Sept. 5, 2014	Dayton	Dayton, Ohio	W, 3-0 (1-2)
Sept. 6, 2014	CSU-Bakersfield	Dayton, Ohio	W, 3-1 (2-2)
Sept. 6, 2014	Eastern Kentucky	Dayton, Ohio	W, 3-0 (3-2)
Ameritas Players	Challenge		
Sept. 12, 2014	Denver	Devaney Center	W, 3-0 (4-2)
Sept. 13, 2014	Colgate	Devaney Center	W, 3-0 (5-2)
Sept. 17, 2014	Creighton	Devaney Center	W, 3-1 (6-2)
Sept. 20, 2014	Texas	Devaney Center	L, 3-2 (6-3)
Sept. 24, 2014	Iowa *	Devaney Center	W, 3-0 (7-3)
Sept. 27, 2014	Iowa *	Iowa City, Iowa	W, 3-0 (8-3)
Oct. 3, 2014	Penn State *	Devaney Center	W, 3-1 (9-3)
Oct. 4, 2014	Ohio State *	Devaney Center	L, 3-2 (9-4)
Oct. 10, 2014	Michigan State *	East Lansing, MI	W, 3-1 (10-4)
Oct. 11, 2014	Michigan *	Ann Arbor, MI	L 3-0 (10-5)
Oct. 15, 2014	Northwestern *	Devaney Center	W, 3-0 (11-5)
Oct. 18, 2014	Illinois *	Devaney Center	L, 3-1 (11-6)
Oct. 22, 2014	Minnesota *	Minneapolis	W, 3-2 (12-6)
Oct. 26, 2014	Wisconsin *	Madison, Wis.	TBA
Oct. 31, 2014	Rutgers *	Piscataway, N.J.	TBA
Nov. 1, 2014	Maryland *	College Park, Md.	TBA
Nov. 5, 2014	Purdue *	Devaney Center	TBA
Nov. 8, 2014	Indiana *	Devaney Center	TBA
Nov. 12, 2014	Michigan State *	Devaney Center	TBA
Nov. 16, 2014	Maryland *	Devaney Center	TBA
Nov. 19, 2014	Indiana *	Bloomington, Ind.	TBA
Nov. 22, 2014	Michigan *	Devaney Center	TBA
Nov. 26, 2014	Illinois *	Champaign, Ill.	TBA
Nov. 29, 2014	Penn State *	State College	TBA
NCAA Tourney			
Dec. 4-6, 2014	TBD	College Sites	TBA
Dec. 13-14, 2014	TBD	Regional Sites	TBA
Dec. 18, 2014	TBD - Semifinals	Oklahoma City, OK	TBA
Dec. 20, 2014	Championship	Oklahoma City	6:35 p.m.

defense and special teams.

"She's just trying to do everything right now, which makes her be not a very good setter. We just need her to be a very good setter and keep us organized."

That's what Pollmiller has been trying to do. It hasn't been easy. As the only senior on the team she might feel a

little extra pressure to be a leader.

But Pollmiller tries not to see her teammates as being in different classes.

"I really just think about it like we're all equal," Pollmiller said. "I try not to bring the classes into it. You hear a lot of people saying that we're a young team, but we don't use

that as an excuse. We're just trying to be the team we want to be together."

The difference is, as the only senior, all her other teammates will likely be back with the Husker program next year.

On the other hand, Pollmiller's college career will be over.

But Pollmiller made the most of her last two seasons by transferring to Nebraska. She was the Southeastern Conference freshman of the year and a second-team All-SEC selection at Tennessee as a freshman in 2011.

Then following her sophomore year she followed Volunteer teammate Kelsey Robinson to Lincoln to play for the Huskers. The change in scenery has worked out well for Pollmiller.

NCAA rules allows volleyball players to transfer and play immediately if they get a release from their previous school.

That rule allowed her to join the Nebraska program and compete for a starting job immediately.

"It was just good to hit the ground running," Pollmiller said "Got here, started classes, started lifting. I think it was a good thing. I didn't have time to feel it out, just went in and got going with the team."

Pollmiller won that starting job and went on to be named an AVCA honorable mention All-American for the Huskers while playing in the Big Ten. Pollmiller said volleyball is viewed differently in her new conference.

"It's a completely different conference," Pollmiller said. "You see different people every night. Everybody thinks they can win in the Big Ten. In the SEC it really wasn't like that."

So now, as the Huskers head into the second half of the Big Ten season, Pollmiller will be trying to relax, play volleyball and help the team reach its potential.

"I think I think too much about other people sometimes and making sure that they're good," Pollmiller said. "I just have to learn to relax and worry about what I can do."



## NEBRASKA VOLLEYBALL NOTEBOOK

Compiled by Bob Hamar • Photo by Mitch Otto

### NO STATE SEMIS AT DEVANEY

The Nebraska Schools Activities Association announced earlier in October that all state volleyball tournament semifinals would be played at the Pinnacle Bank Arena on Nov. 14.

Previously, the board had voted to move the state tournament back to Lincoln after four years in Grand Island with the expectations of playing semifinals at both the Devaney Center and Pinnacle.

John Cook said the Huskers moved a match against Maryland from Saturday to Sunday that week to accommodate the finals at the Devaney, but never expected to have semifinals there on Friday.

"When they approached us about doing the high school tournament, our agreement was they could do the finals," Cook said. "We are moving a Big Ten match to play the finals there, so it is an inconvenience for us and whoever we're playing to move it, but I think it's really important."

"Logistically it works good for them to have all day Friday there and then do the finals here, which is what we've done in the past at the Coliseum."

Cook said there would be no conflicts with the semifinals at Devaney if the Huskers are on the road.

### TOUGH ROAD AT HOME

The Huskers have now lost five matches at the Devaney Center this year, but when you look at the ratings you see they have lost to some very good teams.

As of Oct. 20, No. 1 Stanford, No. 2 Texas, No. 4 Florida State, No. 10 Illinois and No. 20 Ohio State have beaten the Huskers in Lincoln this year.

Cook said he was somewhat surprised by the reaction after the Huskers lost to Illinois on Oct. 18.

"Everybody acts like it was a huge loss or whatever," Cook said. "Illinois had a swing to beat Stanford at Stanford. They beat Penn State at Penn State, which everybody has a hard time doing. They were up 14-10 on Ohio State and lost, so they gave that one away like we did."



Justine Wong-Orantes serves against Stanford earlier this season.

The Huskers should be able to improve on that home-court record in the second half of the season with matches against Purdue, Indiana, Michigan State, Maryland and Michigan.

Although Michigan did beat Nebraska in Ann Arbor, Purdue is the only rated team left to play in Lincoln.

### NUMBERS DON'T LIE

After opening the Big Ten season with two-straight wins over Iowa, the Huskers went 3-3 in their next six matches. Cook

analyzed the statistics from the last six matches, which included a blowout loss to Michigan, and came up with some rather surprising results.

"We're out blocking our opponents by a significant amount the way we stat it," Cook said. "We're out serving and we're out passing and we're out digging. When I look at our stats, we're doing some nice things. We've just lost some close games."

So now the Huskers just need to win more matches, especially the close ones.

"I feel pretty good about things we're doing," Cook said. "Now it's just a matter of getting that belief level and finding ways to win close games."

### GETTING THAT FEELING BACK

Nebraska's best match of the season may have been their win over Penn State in early October. That match provided Cook with a blueprint showing how he wants his team to play.

Cook even put together a video tape of highlights from that match showing the joy he would like his players to show every match.

"We know it's not going to be like that every night, but that's the standard we're trying to hit," Cook said. "We're trying to show them visually. This is a visual generation. We made this video and I think it really has had an impact and get them to think."

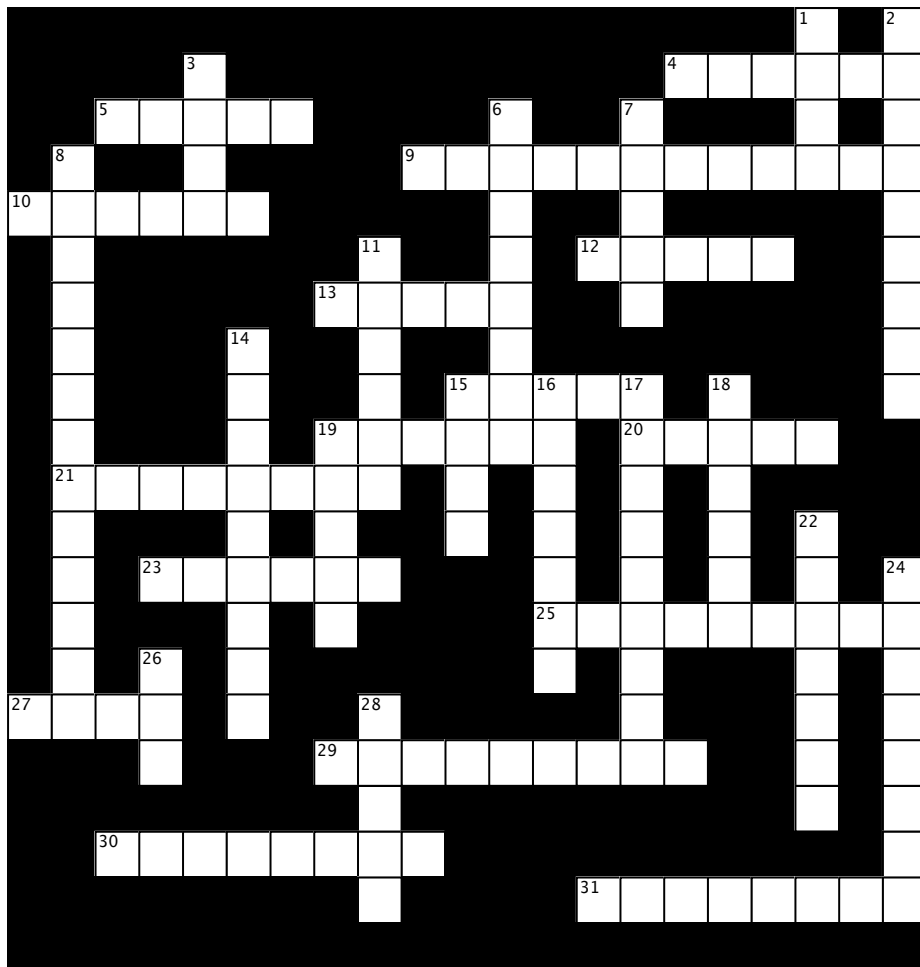
The Huskers, for whatever reason, just haven't been able to put it all together the way Cook would like, although he saw it over the summer on their trip to China. He was hoping this video would help.

"It's something they have to see and they have to feel it," Cook said. "They've been there. They have to go back and get it. We had it in China."

Setter Mary Pollmiller said the players understand what needs to be done.

"I think us three captains have talked about that a lot," Pollmiller said. "Since we're all at different positions, we feel like we can all bring it. It's easier to talk about than to do."

# NOVEMBER 1 CROSSWORD PUZZLE



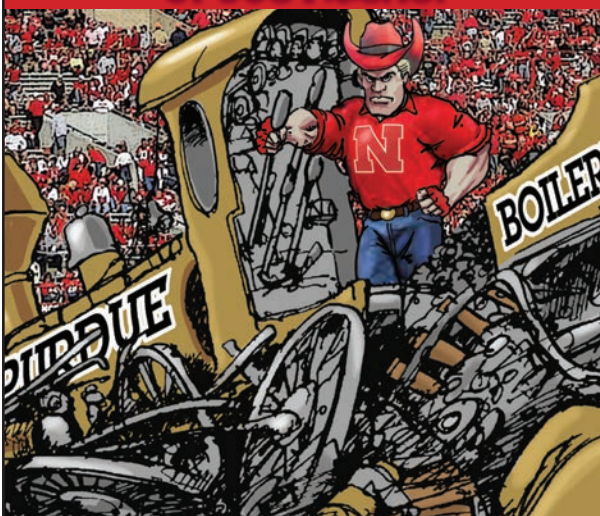
## ACROSS

4. 1983 Maxwell Award winner
5. Running backs coach
9. Purdue nickname
10. 2010 All-America place-kicker
12. Intercepted pass vs. Northwestern
13. Leading tackler vs. Northwestern
15. Purdue school color
19. Purdue head coach
20. Opponent recently added to 2018 schedule
21. Wears No. 13 (defense)
23. Wears No. 6 (defense)
25. Nov. 22 opponent
27. Ex-Husker running back now with Washington Redskins
29. Nov. 15 opponent
30. Had 2.5 sacks vs. Northwestern
31. No. 2 on the NU's career rushing list

## DOWN

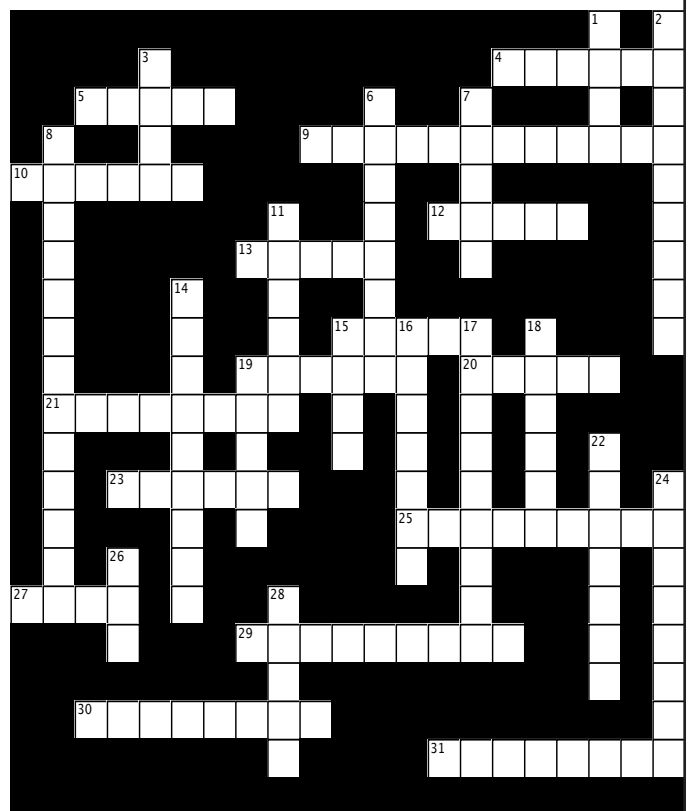
1. Number of NU national titles
2. Caught touchdown pass vs. Northwestern
3. Number of Ameer Abdullah touchdowns vs. Northwestern
6. Wears No. 5 (defense)
7. Ex-Purdue quarterback who was a Super Bowl MVP
8. Purdue campus location
11. Ex-Husker defensive back now with New York Giants
14. Completed only pass for touchdown vs. Northwestern
15. Leading receiver vs. Northwestern
16. Ameer Abdullah's home state
17. Defensive line coach
18. Ex-Purdue quarterback in College and Pro Hall of Fame
19. Wears No. 13 (offense)
22. 2016 non-conference opponent
24. Wears No. 35 (offense)
26. 2009 Associated Press College Player of the Year
28. 2015 non-conference opponent

## Prognostications of Joe Husker



Nebraska rolls over Purdue  
and leaves the Boilermakers  
a train wreck.

## OCTOBER 25 CROSSWORD SOLUTION





THE ORIGINAL MAGAZINE DEDICATED TO NEBRASKA ATHLETICS

# HUSKERS

ILLUSTRATED

[magazine.huskersillustrated.com](http://magazine.huskersillustrated.com)

1-800-524-9527

IT'S  
HERE!

HUSKERS  
247

HUSKERSILLUSTRATED.COM

FROM THE LEADERS  
IN RECRUITING  
& NEBRASKA  
COVERAGE

**HUSKERS**  
ILLUSTRATED



**247SPORTS**  
Your team. All the time.